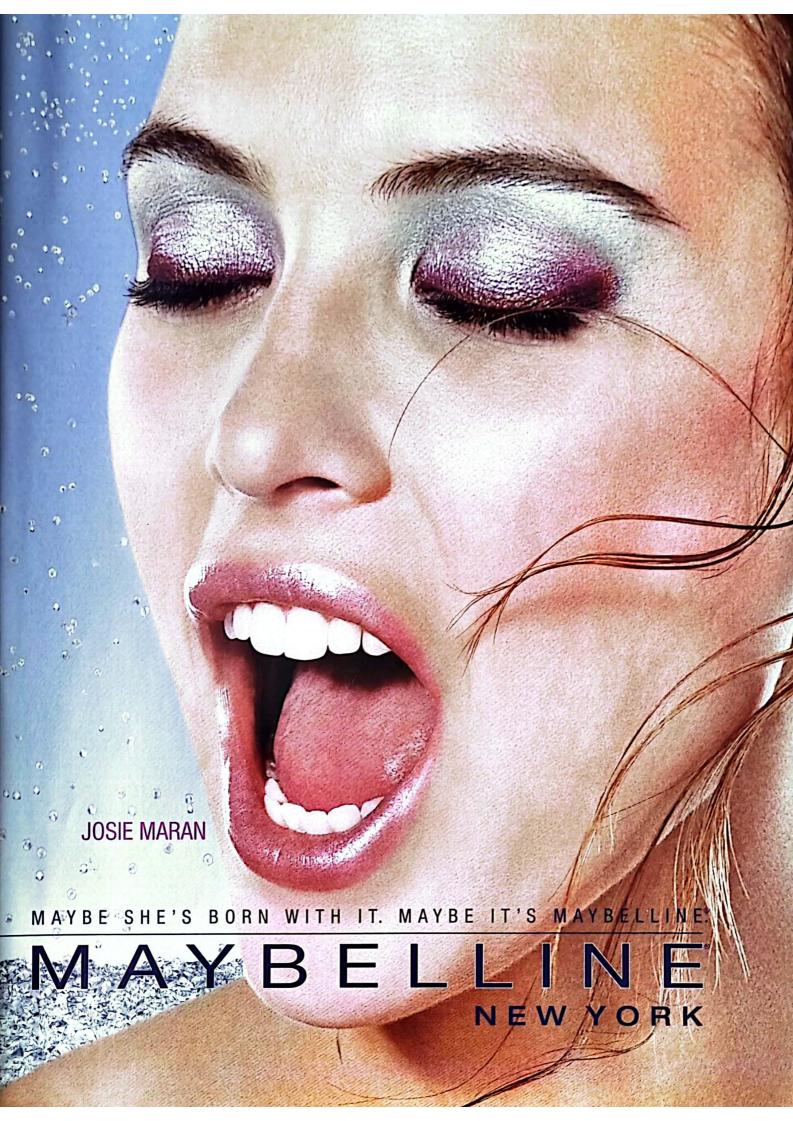


CHRISTMAS AT MAYBELLINE

ICY PINK MEETS SILVER PLUM, GLITTER GOT THE SHIVERS. JUST BRILLIANT.









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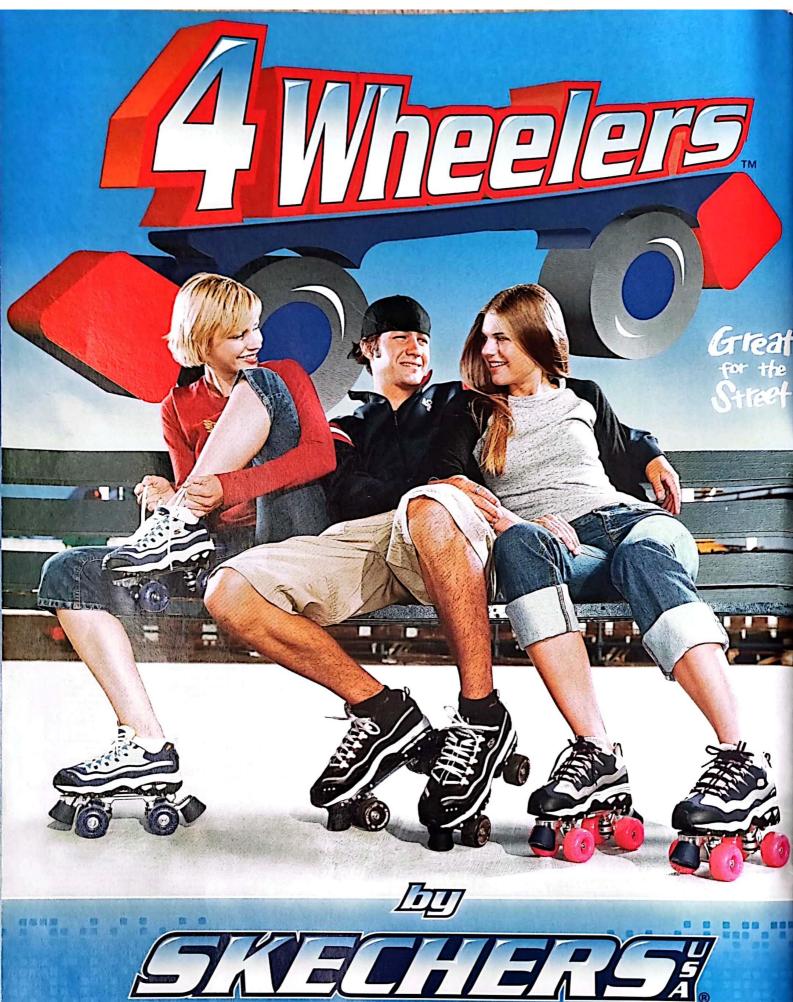
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The so proud and honoured to be chosen from heaven to be invincible.

We are not writing Michael, 1228



Nationwide: Schuh, all:sports, Barratts, Dolcis, Russell & Bromley
London: Ego Shego in Covent Garden and Red Sun in Camden
Scotland and North of England: Original Shoe Co
Northern Ireland: DV8 Shoes and Southern Ireland: Champion Sports

Teenage postbag



"Festive greetings! We hope your Christmas is filled with cash, chocolate and snogs and all boring New Year resolutions are broken by 2 January. Our pact for 2002 is to keep J17 the best mag evaall you have to do in return is keep the fab letters coming. Deal?"

Send your letters, celeb sightings and loadsa presents to Nich and Channy, Teenage Postbag, J17, Endeavour House, 189 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8JG. Or e-mail us at sarah.williams@emap.com. Our star letter each month wins a Sanyo CD Walkman

Star Letter

I wanted to tell you how much you've helped my little sis get through a really tough time. She's dyslexic so I often read all the stories to her. We always take your advice, buy the cool books you suggest and both love Diary Of A Crush! Please print this because my sister would be made up if she knew she was in her fave mag!



SANYO

Rosie, Brighton

We're so happy to hear that we've made a difference to your sis' life, Rosie. You sound like the best sibling around. To reward your kindness, we're sending you this shiny CD Walkman. But will you do the ultimate in sisterly love and donate it to your sis? The decision, Rosie, is yours...





Arty Letter Of The Month

I just wanna say you're da greatest mag eva. You guys give me da latest news and goss and your fashion just rocks. I've designed a cover 4 U with all my fave things on it. Hope you like it and it inspires you to keep up da good work!

Sanna, Southampton

Thanks for your J17 cover, Sanna. Not only are you an accomplished arty babe but you've got a talent for dishing out

This month our postbag has mostly been bursting with...

80% – Our Scary Comp. Teen Towers was overtaken by your spooky stories! All the entries were inspired brilliance – check out the winner over the page. 20% – Your Christmas wish-lists. From posters to pressies, you laydees know what you want from Santa and aren't afraid to ask for it! compliments, too – our kinda gal! Ever since we received your letter our heads have been swelling and fashion ed Neil's having trouble getting through the door, doh!

Turn Up The Heat

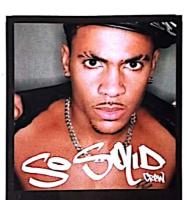
How great did Sam Mumba look in your December issue? I loved the interview because she seemed so down to earth, and the Hot List really rocked my world. Eminem in boxing gloves? He can get in my ring any time! The only thing I was disappointed with was that you forgot about Usher and my fave TV boy Jack Ryder. How could you?

Emily, Chorley

Glad you liked our Celeb ish,
Emily. We still quiver every time
we see that lovely pic of Eminem
(and admit that we do flick to it
at least twice a day!). As for
Usher and Jack Ryder – did ya
think we'd really disappoint you?
You've just entered an even
hotter issue that's devoted to
everyone's fave celeb boys, so
turn to page 10 for our essential
selection. We should carry a
government health warning!

Pierced Problems

Thanks for the piece on body piercing in your November issue ('Body-bootiful') – bad piercings really can leave a terrible mess. When I got my navel pierced twice, I tried to hide it from my parents which meant clothes were always



In November's issue of J17, we ran an article about So Solid Crew. In the article, we wrongly stated that band member Harvey was charged with owning a gun and making a threat to kill back in August. We are happy to make clear that Harvey has never faced such a charge, has never owned a gun and never made any threat to kill. The error was made by J17 staff and not the author of the article, Chris Elwell-Sutton. We unreservedly apologise to Harvey for our error and for any distress or embarrassment caused.

rubbing and it didn't heal properly. Eventually I had to take it out. I spent £100 and all I'm left with are four purple scars and the inability to wear a bikini ever again. It sucks.

Carrie, via e-mail
Maybe for once in her life Posh

LETTERS

So hot, so not

This month Steph from Harrogate sends in her rants and raves...

► Spice got it right when she faked it, Carrie. Piercing can cause all kinds of problems and unless you can guarantee that you're getting it done at a professional place, we recommend you don't do it at all.

Me And Mrs Jones

Hi Nich and Channy! Just wanted to say that my fave bit of your magazine is the J17 Selecta on the music page - it helps me and my brothers decide which singles to buy every month. We blast them out so loud that the neighbours are pretty familiar with your Selecta choice, too! In fact Mrs Jones (the old biddy) told my mum that it livens up the street no end. So keep up the good work guys!

PS My brother Edward fancies Nich, so can you say a special 'Hi!' to him? Eleonora, Derby

You'd think that working here, meeting celebs and going to swanky

parties would make a gal happy Eleonora, but you'd be wrong. Our Nich hasn't wiped the grin off her face since she heard

Mistletoe - great excuse to bag loads of snogs.

Pressies - come on Mum. where's my mini disc at? Stripy scarves - funky and very practical.

Fairy lights - great for the tree and my bedroom all year round.

of her admirer! She says hi to Ed and thanks for making her month! Not only that, but she's chuffed her J17 Selecta is livening up your street. Best say hi to Mrs Jones for her too!

Richard The Great

My name is Hayley Turnbull and I would like to tell everyone that I love Richard Peel. We've been going out for just over a year. He always flicks through my mag and reads your letters page cos it makes him laugh. Thanks for being my boyf!

Hayley, Northumberland Wow, Hayley, you sound like a girl who's got it bad! Although we were kinda grossed out imagining you both snuggled

up together and laughing out loud when reading our humble postbag of delights, we do now admit that it's actually rather cute. As Jerry Springer would say, take care of yourselves and each other!

Feed The Bird

I would just like to thank you for showing that awful picture of Pamela Anderson Family get-togethers - doing the conga with your nan just ain't glam.

Turkey - save us from turkey curry hell!

Xmas TV - bring on the DVDs - pleeeease!

Brussel sprouts - they taste as bad as they smell.



in the December issue. Recently I have been really down about my weight and have been making myself sick. But showing me that picture of Pamela Anderson has put me off wanting to be skinny -I reckon she needs more than just a sarnie to sort herself out! Belinda, via e-mail You're damn right she does Belinda - a ten-course meal, a good winter coat and a new hairdresser would be a start. But the important thing is that Pam has made you see sense.

There's no point striving to look like people who rely on cosmetic surgery and crazy diets to transform their bods. Be happy and healthy with what you've got, cos it's bound to be a lot more than stick-thin Pammy.

Fright Night Winner!

Last November we set a competition to write a scary story in no more than 250 words. We're pleased to announce that the lucky winner is 17-year-old Rachel Cleary from Wales who receives £100 to spend in WHSmith. Enjoy!

31 Oct 2002: Susie Seventeen and her cat, Stan, are investigating the mystery of Hauntingdon Hall They're not scared of some dumb ghost story so they sleep in Elizabeth's room, hoping to find out what happened. Susie was doing her nails when

she heard the chanting of small children: "Who let the dogs out? Who let the dogs out?" Weird! Susie went to investigate. After passing a small coffin with a plaque on top dedicated to 'Hellraiser the hound' in the dining room, she and Stan followed the freaky tune, and as she moved closer, she stepped onto a magic cobweb that led to a secret passage. Next thing she knew, she tripped over a spell book - which turned out to be

an old issue of J17! Wicked! The door to the basement spookily opened and Susie came face to face with Lizzie Victorian and the Earl of Gothsborough

> who were partying on down. See, back in 1666 Elizabeth had discovered a forever-young potion and had been partying with her date all these years!



Txt us 2day on 0777 000 7386

Msgs from u

FRIENDS ARE LIKE STARS., YOU DON'T ALWAYS SEE THEM BUT YOU KNOW THEY'RE STILL THERE

A BIT OF BLACK TARMAC WALKS IN 2 A BAR FOLLOWED BY A BIT OF RED TARMAC, THE BLACK TARMAC SEZ 2 THE LANDLORD, DONT SERVE HIM HE'S A CYCLEPATH! =D ALICE

BOYZ R LIKE NEW SHOES, AT FIRST U REALLY WAN' EM BUT EVENTUALLY EITHER U GROW OUT OF EM OR U WEAR EM OUT LUV YA JIZ LUV KEZ XXX

DJA HEAR BOUT DA VAMPIRE RACE? DEY FRISHD NCK N NCK! FROM JEN IN IRL

HEY JIZ. WOTS THE DEFINITION OF STUPID? 2 BALD MEN FIGHTING OVA A COMB. THANK 4 DA WKD MAG :)

HOWZ A LAD LIKE AN OLD BRA? THEY HANG ROUND BOOBS AL DAY N GIV U NO SUPORT! FRM KATE

I KNOW A BLOND GIRL THAT TRIPT OVA A CORDLESS PHONE WIRE! LUV BEE X

I WANTED 2 SEND U SOMETHING

BEAUTIFUL BUT THE POSTMAN TOLD ME 2 GET OUT THE LETTERBOX! LOZ X

IF PIGS COULD FLY THE SCHOOL STAFF ROOM WOULD BE AN AIRPORT!

WAS CHRISTINA AGUILERA SINGING FOR MOULIN ROUGE OR THE ROCKY

Ext vote

Last month we asked if racial harmony in the UK has been hit by the attacks on the US. You said... Yes 48%

No 52%

HORROR PICTURE SHOW? :-P

WOT HAPPENS WHEN IT RAINS CATS II DOGS? U STEP IN A POODLE, KIRSTY X

GOT A PICCIE REQUEST FOR YOUR FAVE MRG? DON'T SIT ON IT, THT US 20RY AND LET US WORK OUR POSTER MAGIC

This month:

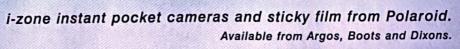
After Victoria Beckham's recen dismal chart performance, has the Spice bubble finally burst? Yes: Ay'a

No: Dn'a

Txt us 2day 0777 000 7386



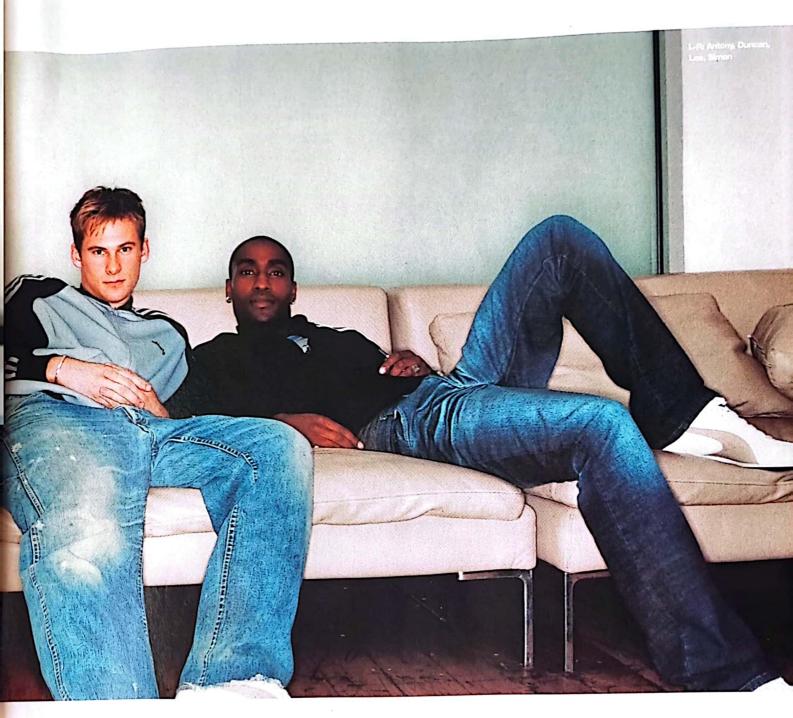








...for a celeb boy all of my own to sit next to in class. These lads are going to make 2002 the best year ever. Whose name will you be doodling on your rough book?

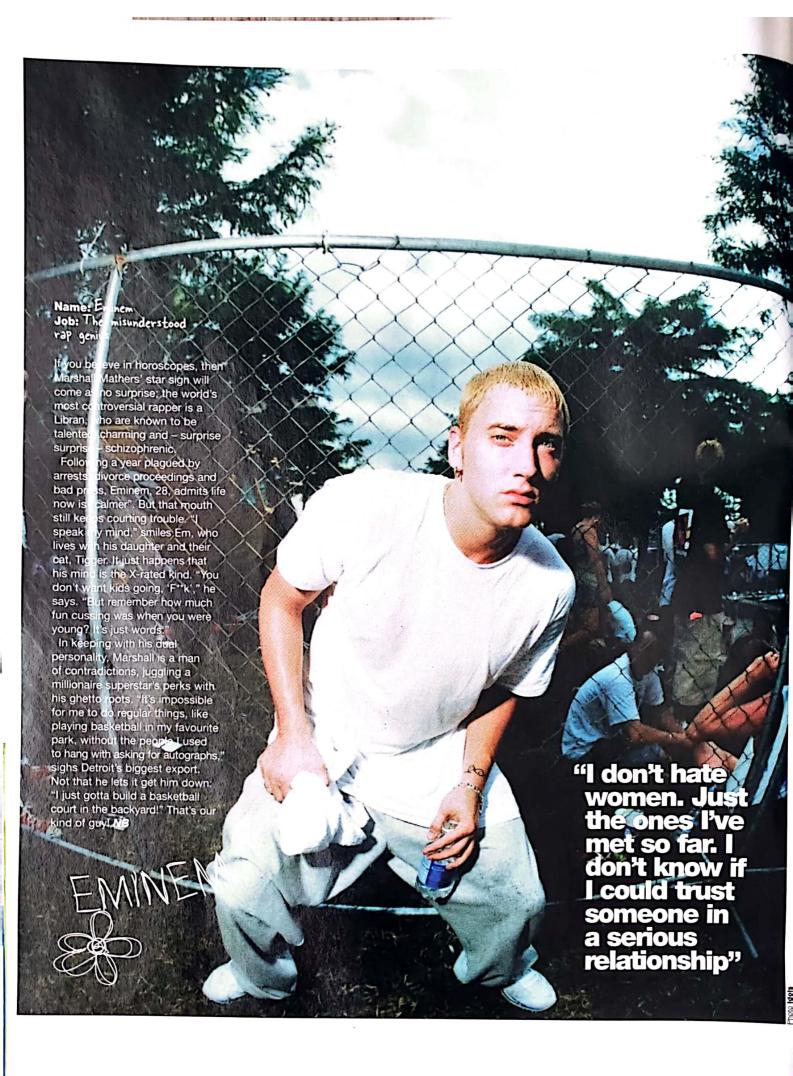


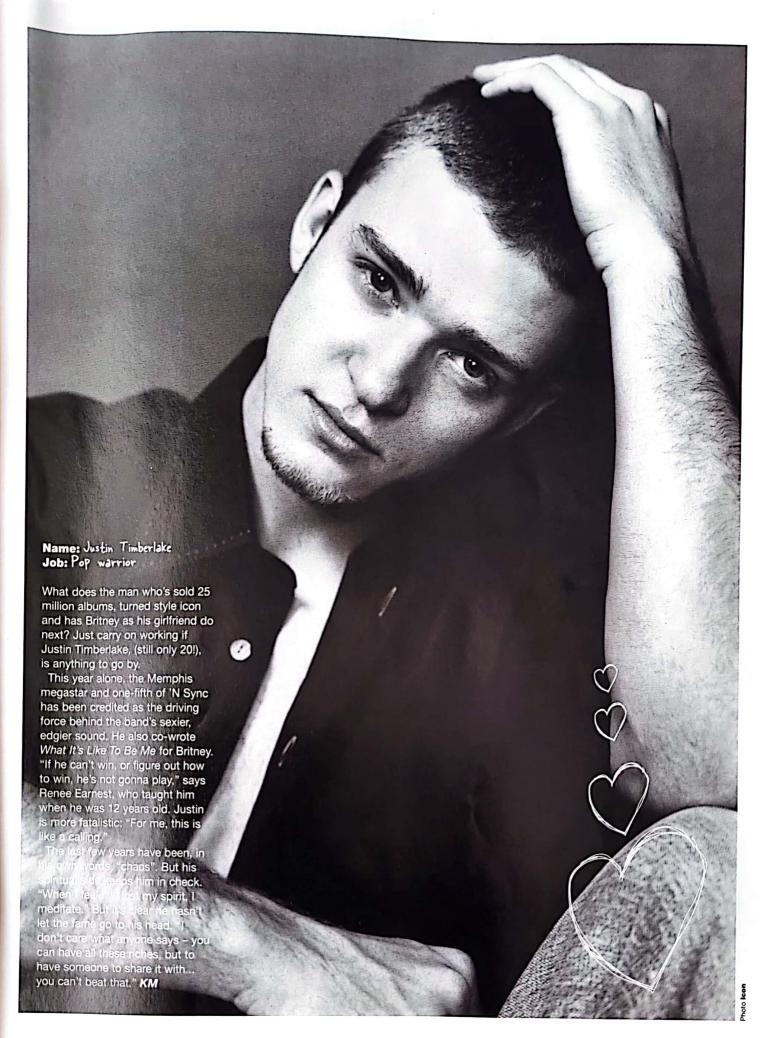
Name: Blue Job: The golden boys of Pop

"Only my hairstyle has changed since we last met J17," says Antony Costa. Yeah, and the rest! When J17 first hooked up with Antony, 20, Lee Ryan, 18, Duncan James, 22, and Simon Webbe, 22 last May, they were fresh-faced unknowns about to unleash their first single, All Rise, on the pop world. Seven months down the line and Blue are one of pop's hottest assets.

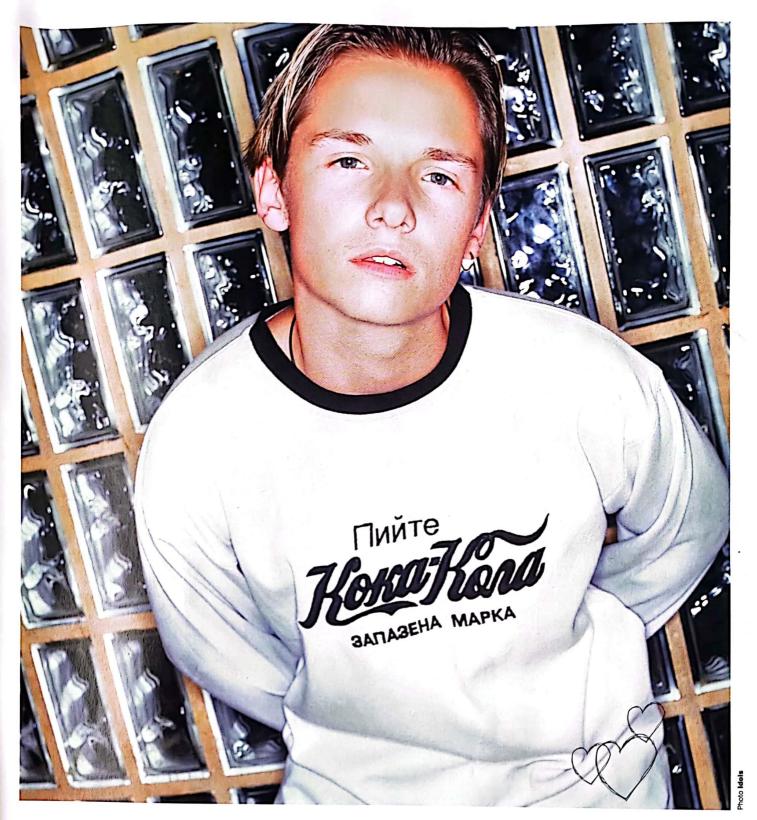
"We never expected this," says the blond, blue-eyed Lee. "We've been lucky and just enjoy each day." Lucky maybe, but it's taken more than that to be accepted as a credible boy band. "Boy bands are labelled as cheesy but we didn't want that," admits Simon. "From the beginning we wanted to be quality." Thanks to their dazzling live performances and impressive debut album, All Rise, Blue have had little trouble proving that to the critics.

That unmistakable pop star air surrounds the boys now (they're more confident and cheekier), but it's a small price to pay for success. "We're still very laid-back," insists Duncan, who confesses that most of his fan mail comes from mums! "We know we're not going to be around forever," says Lee, when asked about the band's future. "We'd like to, but I'd say give us four or five years." Let's enjoy them while we can. **NB**









Name: Jack Ryder Job: Saucy soap star

"I always thought I could do something big," says EastEnders boy wonder Jack Ryder, 20. Then adds with that smile, those eyes: "I just thought I'd have to wait until I was at least 40!"

Just goes to show: back in 1998 the south Londoner, then

17, had no clue he'd spark a riot in the role of Jamie Mitchell.

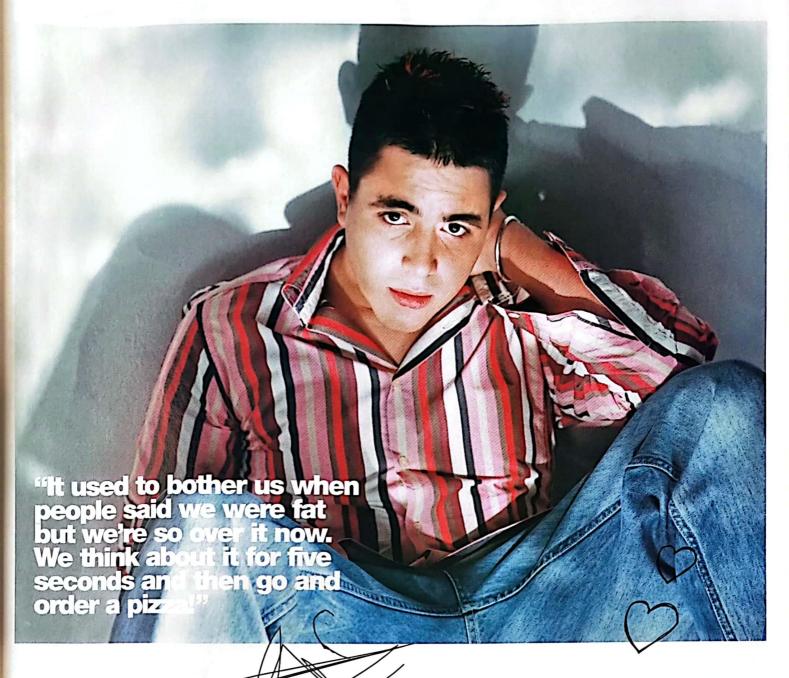
"I was shocked, so I didn't jump for joy. All I could think was, 'My whole life is going to change,'" admits the student whose only acting experience was GCSE drama.

Life is indeed pretty different now. There are his devoted worshippers – "If they don't shout, they stare" - not to mention his pop star girlfriend, Kym 'Hear'Say' Marsh: they moved in together last November.

But Jack remains a tantalisingly private person, minus any of the airs and graces that ruin too many other natural talents. "I like my life to stay as normal as it's always been," he says.

Meaty storylines, roll on. KM





Name: Noel Sullivan Job: Pop's friendliest pin-up

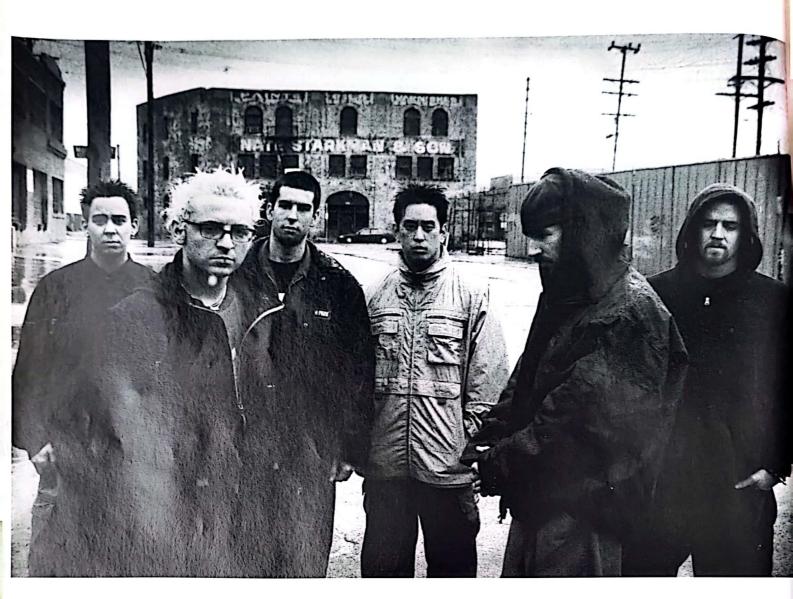
Being a member of a bona fide pop group is taking Hear'Say's Noel Sullivan some getting used to. "I'm still trying to get my head round it," he says, sounding as stunned as he did when Nigel picked him on national TV.

Pop stardom might have turned his world upside down, but Cardiff's most famous 21-year-old insists he's still the cheeky, unassuming lad he was nine months ago. "I'm more independent but I haven't changed my lifestyle," he admits.

Noel's laid-back attitude also extends to his pin-up status, which he finds hilarious. "Being told you're a sex symbol is embarrassing but I do try to groom myself more than I used to," he laughs.

As for Hear'Say's future? "People expected us to fizzle out after the first single," says Noel. "They're waiting for us to fall, but we're going to keep on until people don't want us anymore."

With Noel as their resident hottie. we reckon there'll be no need to clear a space in the pop-dumpster just yet. NB





PARK

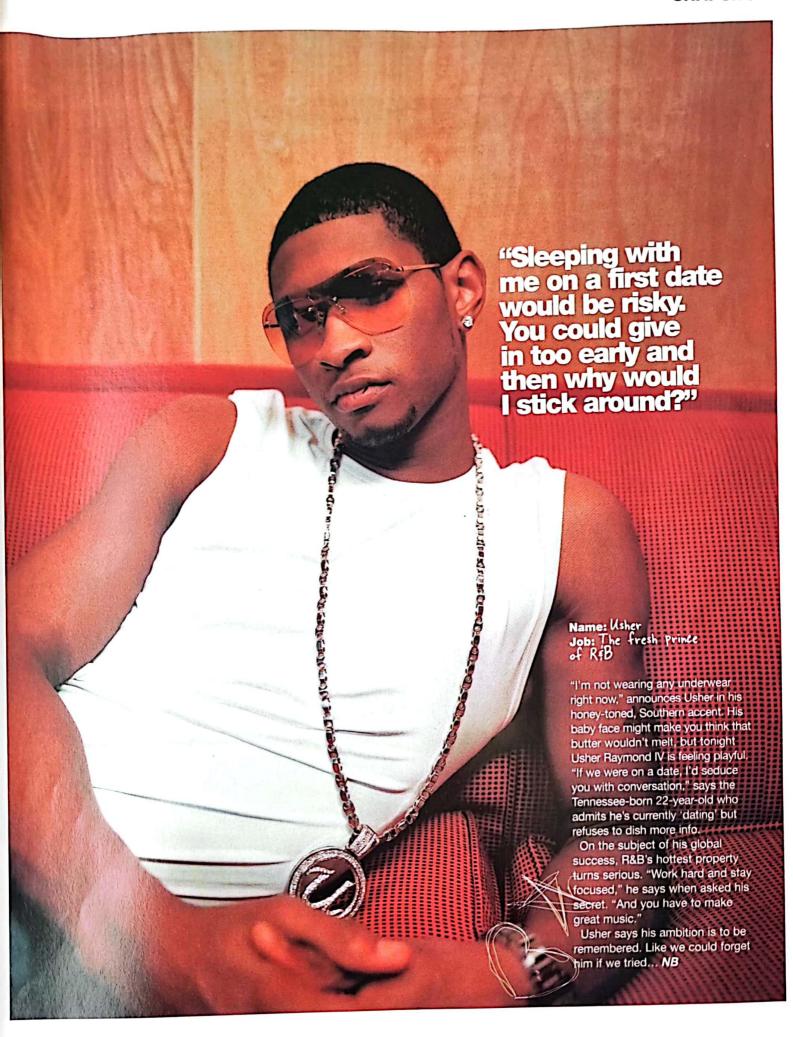
Name: Linkin Park Job: Nu-metal's Mr Nice Guys

2001 belonged to nu-metal and no one knows that better than South California's Linkin Park. "It's been the most exciting year," enthuses vocalist and front man Chester Bennington, 24. "Seeing our fans sing our lyrics is beyond words."

Chester and band mates Mike Shinoda (rapper), Brad Delson (guitar), David 'Phoenix' Farrell (bass), Rob Bourdon (drums) and Joseph Hahn (decks) aren't your average rock stars. *Hybrid Theory*, their 4.5 million-selling debut album, doesn't contain a single

swear word and Linkin are the kind of clean-living, well-behaved boys your mum would be thrilled to meet. "We're best friends and we never fight," says Rob, the baby of the band at 21.

Linkin Park reckon the secret of their success is down to their fans. "Ever since the beginning, we've tried to maintain a strong relationship with our fans," admits Rob, explaining why they sign hundreds of autographs at every show. "It's a way of giving back," adds Mike, 23. "Our fans have helped us realise a dream we didn'know was possible." It couldn't happen to a nicer band! **NB**







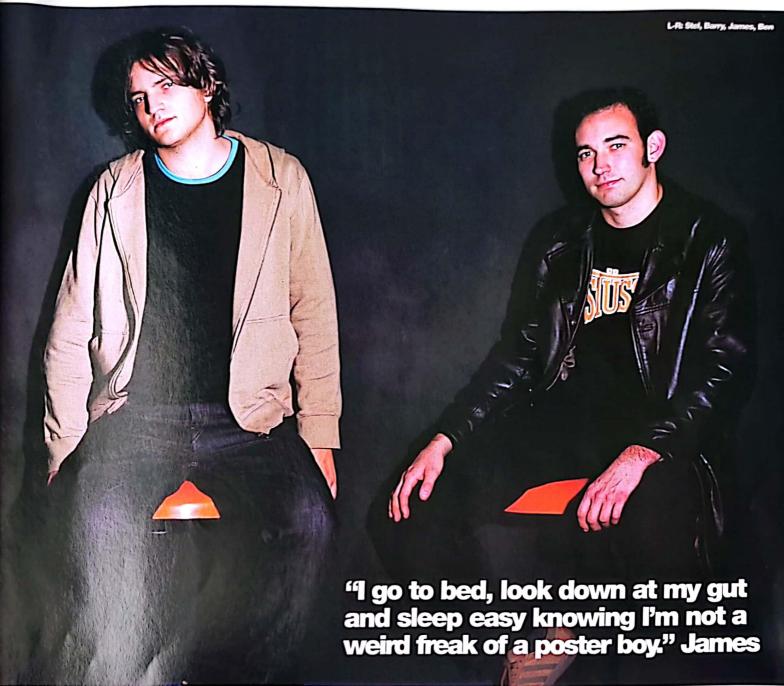
Name: Starsailor Job: Britain's best new band

As good years go, Starsailor certainly didn't pull the short straw in 2001. After the release of their first single, Fever, last February, James Walsh (vocals, guitar), James Stelfox (bass), Ben Byrne (drums) and Barry Westhead (keyboards) were hailed as the 'best new band in Britain'. Pretty daunting for four shy, down-to-earth lads from Lancashire.

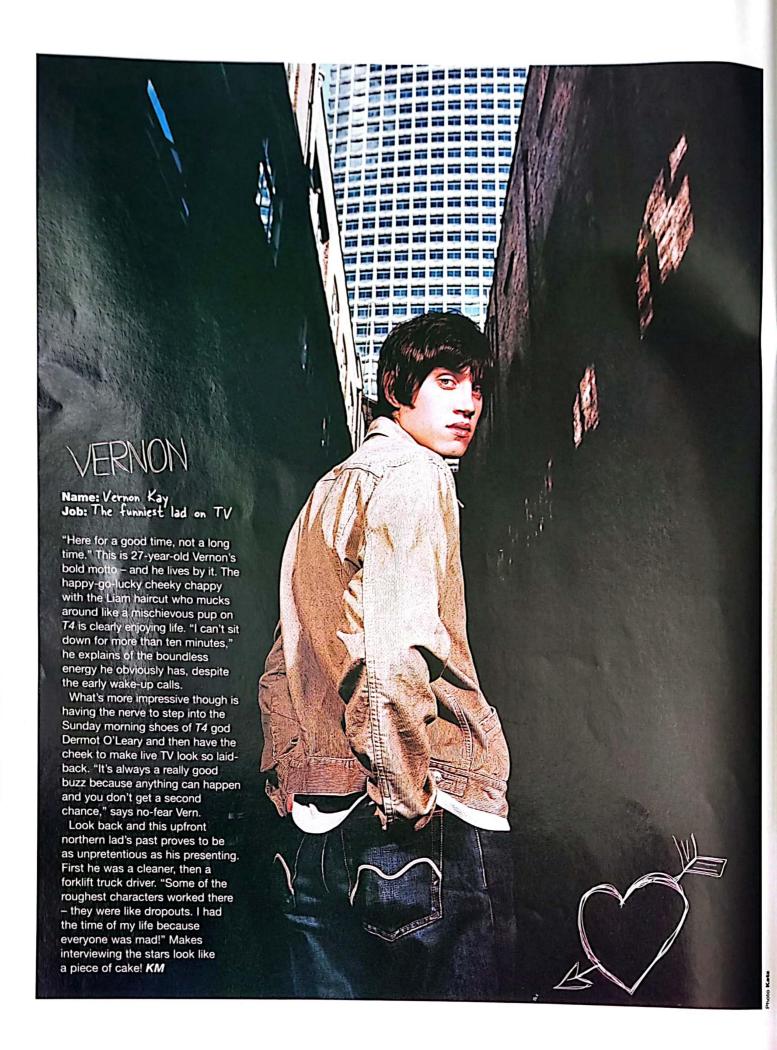
Describing their sound as intense and emotional, Starsailor aren't surprised by how easily they've connected to people. "Our songs are honest and modest," says cute front man James, 21, whose beautiful voice has to be heard live to be believed. "We're saying that we're just as worried, questioning and stupid as you are and we're sympathetic to your cause."

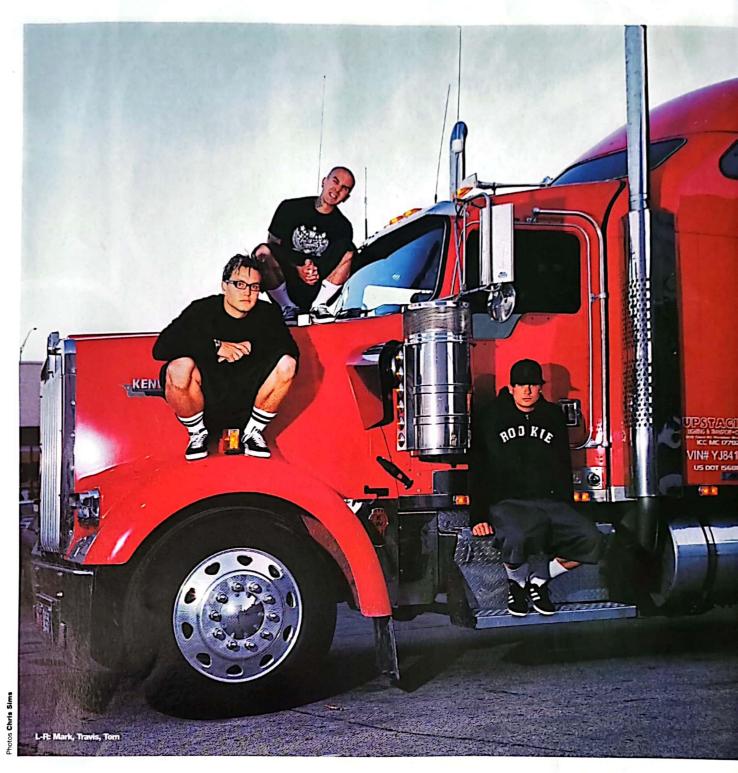
Life has changed dramatically since James met childhood friends Stel and Ben at music college in 1996, but despite the music world bowing at their feet – the band recently won Q's 'Best Newcomers' award – Starsailor are resisting the temptations of indie stardom. "Performing live is the best thing fame brings," confesses Stel, 25. "And we'd rather be down our local pub than in the Met Bar."

In fact, all the boys want is for the world to know one thing: "We're social misfits," grins James mischievously. "But we're trying our best!" That's good enough for us! **NB**







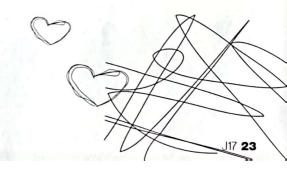


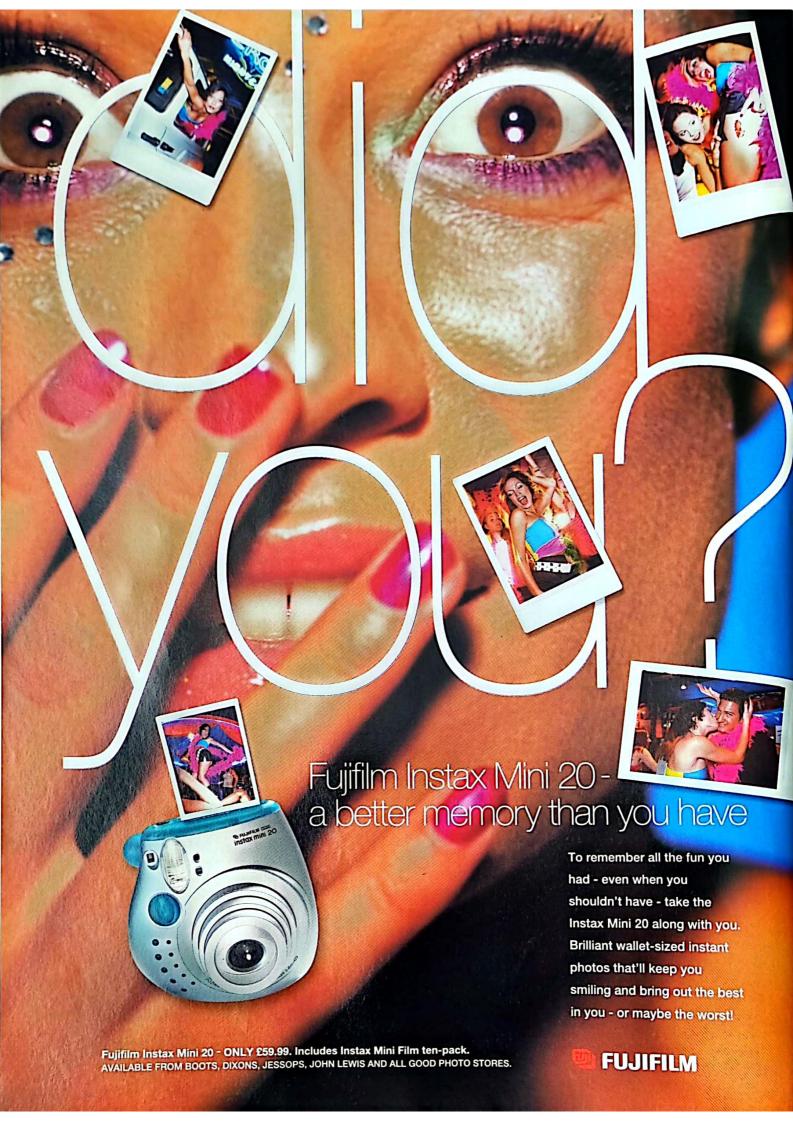
Name: Blink 182 Job: Punk-pop's reigning champs

"Touring is the best time for this band. It's why we started and it's what we love doing," says Blink 182's bassist Mark Hoppus, 29.

Although fans won't want Blink to mention the T word, having postponed their November visit, Mark, Tom Delonge and Travis Barker aren't planning to stay away too long. "I can't wait to come back," says drummer Travis, 26, who recently got married. (All three of them are hitched. Sigh!)

With last summer's release of their fifth album, *Take Off Your Pants And Jacket*, Blink 182 are quick to point out there's more to them than pee, poop and boob-obsessed jokes. "We're the opposite to how we're thought of," shrugs guitarist Tom, 26, who says he wishes his band mates were wilder. Off-stage antics aside, we'd settle for the plugged-in Blink any day... *NB*







Celebs

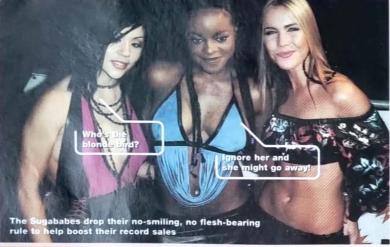
Seeing stars

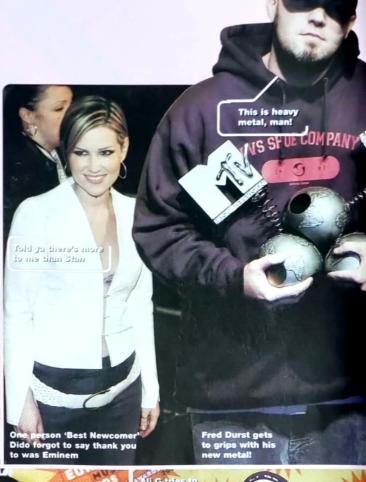
8 pages of the gossip, the whole gossip and nothing but the gossip

MTV's Christmas Party

The best of 2001's music on your TV

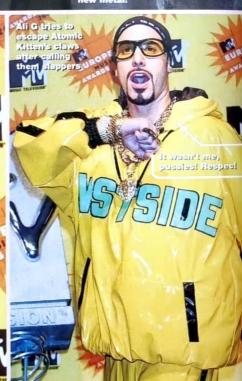
If you missed MTV's Europe Music Awards last month, then fret not. *The Best Of MTV Week* kicks off on Christmas Day, screening must-see highlights of the year in music. Catch the Europe Awards at 8pm on 25th, the Movie Awards at 8pm on 27th and *Pop's Five Night Stand* at 6pm on 30th. Beats playing Trivial Pursuit, eh?











Teen Dreams Mandy looks dandy - but as for the others...

Mandy Moore (right) dumped her Barbie-doll look for a sophisticated style to host US mag *Teen People*'s third annual 'What's Next' party in New York. Honouring the best new talent around, we hear home-grown two-stepper Craig David caused the night's biggest splash. Bo!

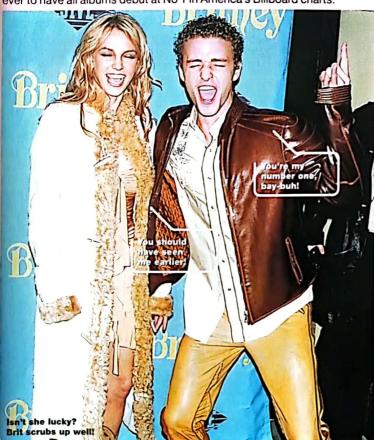






Major Mess To Pop Princess

There's only one thing on a girl's mind when it's the day of her album launch party – nails! A make-up free, spectacled Britney took herself off for a manicure – and what a difference a pampering sesh makes! Still the girl had a lot to be happy about. Brit was celebrating being the first female ever to have all albums debut at No 1 in America's Billboard charts.







Fly on the wall Who we've spotted this month!

- Our Kitty was followed (yeah, right) round Camden market by James Redmond. He was looking at second-hand jeans on his own. He was very tall ("I was shocked!") and well cute...
- Our Nich got to share a cab with **Starsailor** when she interviewed them in Sheffield. "Mine and **James Walsh**'s knees touched!" she said dreamily when she got back to Teen Towers.
- Annie nearly trod on HRH Sophie (Rhys Jones) Windsor trying to escape the crowds after a preview screening of Harry Potter. All that dosh and she still looked like "someone's granny in a bad wig".
- Andrew WK's band obviously don't lead the limo life. Channy saw them after their London gig packing all their equipment into a beige Fiesta. Rock on!

Barometer Your checklist for the month ahead,

Party daze: Chrissie Eve, Chrissie Day, New Year's Eve – not that we need an excuse get glam and get hold of some cutie. Blinkin' great: Blink 182 hit Blighty to play their re-scheduled tour dates. Sale Seduction: New Year sales are our kind of shopping.

Festive Food Fever: 'Tis the season to stuff as much nice grub as you can.

Eeevil TV: Big Bro's Brian – the one who hasn't sold his soul to the tabloids – is due to launch his own TV show this month. The jury is still out...

Em 'n' Kim: Nah, not that Kim – wrinkly Kim Basinger. The 47-year-old actress who plays his mum in his film has been seen smooching with Marshall between takes. Get real Slim – she's not your laydee!

IK NEWS Celebs, we've got their number

Certain stars, like Posh and Michael Jackson, demand that shops are cleared of the bothersome public (that's us, BTW) so they can browse in private. Other less A-list types – Myleene Klass, for instance – don't even have enough clout to queue-barge. The Hear'Say poplet pulled the "Don't you know who I aaaaam" line at M&S in Covent Garden, but the check-out attendant wasn't having any of it.

Covent Garden is obviously the place for celebrity shopping. Kylie Minogue, Donna Air, Cat Deeley and all of Atomic Kitten have been spotted in sexy make-up boutique Pout.

Kate Winslet's A
Christmas Carol has
impressed music
maestro Andrew
Lloyd Webber so
much that he wants
to cast Kate in the
movie version of his
theatre hit Phantom
Of The Opera.

Lee Ryan from
Blue used to have a
crush on former Big
Brekkie turned Saturday Show
presenter Dani Behr. "When I
was younger I used to go down
to The Big Breakfast all the time
just to see Dani," he admits.
"One time, I even got her to
sign my forehead."

Robbie Williams might have claimed recently that Sophie Ellis Bextor has "my nan's ankles and a face like a satellite dish", but the girl in question is more than happy with her face shape. "I used to really hate my jaw; I even thought of plastic surgery. But I really like it now because it's not like anyone else's." So there, Mr Williams!

They're back!

Just when you thought it was safe to go out, those denim-clad dancing girls B*Witched are back in town

After a year shunning the limelight while they set up Denim World™ (an all-River Dancing fun factory) two witches, Edele and Lindsay, were spotted last month at a

Hollyoaks party. They still look the same (wearing denim) but do they still sound the same? We'll find out in the new year when the girls are releasing a new track. Oh goody!





Shut Gobby celebs get gagged

"I'm so proud and honoured to be chosen from heaven to be invincible."

And you try to tell us you're not Wacko, Jacko? Believe what you like, Mikey, but we recommend you still avoid direct sunlight at all times.



Sucker Tracy's agent totally falls for our saucy compliments...

Could Tracy Shaw be any spicier? We ask her agent if she wants to follow up her salsa video with a red hot and saucy ad campaign...

Agent: Hello?

J17: Hello, I'm calling from
Brighter PR regarding Tracy Shaw
and our new clients called Hot
Stuff. It's a fat-free, full-tasting dip.
I just saw Tracy's new salsa video
and thought because the salsa dip
is very hot, very saucy and very
healthy, she'd be the perfect face
for Hot Stuff sauce.

Agent: Erm – a sauce for what?

J17: It's a salsa dip.

Does Tracy like them?

Agent: I'm not sure

Agent: I'm not sure, she doesn't really eat snacks.

J17: We've got a tag line: Hot Sturit makes your tongue tingle.

Agent: That's nice but you'd bettue send me a fax with the proposal.

J17: Do you think it's something Tracy might be interested in?

Agent: [getting annoyed] Possible I'll have to have a look at it.

J17: That's great, thanks.

Play 5tation PlayStation PlayStation 2 PlayStation 2 Thora dons her glad rags only to be outdone by a console!



Plug in, baby!

Let the games begin!

To celebrate their first anniversary, the peeps behind PlayStation 2 invited video game-lovin' celebs to a special thumb-fest at the swanky St Regis Hotel in Los Angeles. A skinny Thora Birch showed off her Tekken skills while Chris Klein and Seann William Scott battled it out in Gran Turismo. Justin Timberlake, P Diddy, Snoop Dogg and Broadway's latest newcomer, Jason Biggs, were also among the players. Forget hangovers - blisters were LA's hottest accessory!

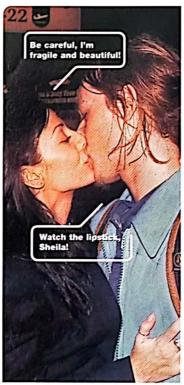


That day in Natalie Imbruglia's life

She's been moaning big time recently about how she hates being single (get over it!), but hopefully she'll shut up, now she's been reunited with an old flame...

She's had a string of gorge celeb boyfriends, including David Schwimmer and Lenny Kravitz, but beaut Aussie singer Natalie has made no secret of her recent hellish existence as a, gulp, singleton. As luck would have it, she bumped into ex-squeeze, Silverchair rocker Daniel Johns, at an awards ceremony recently and the pair have got cosy again. Maybe now she'll stop moaning!





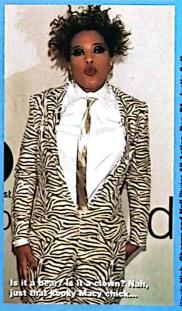


Party people The stars step out in style

Hollywood's hottest music and film stars got glammed up for last month's VH1/Vogue fashion awards. Destiny's Child won the award for Outrageous Group, Gwen Stefani bagged a gong for her Rock Style and we reckon Macy Gray's comedy look took some beating!

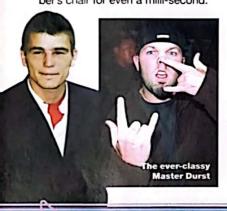






US news The latest on Stateside happenings

■ The latest Ludicrous Celebrity
Behaviour Award goes to Queen
Madge who's hired a personal
fashion designer for her daughter
Lourdes, aged FOUR! Thankfully,
not all celebs are vainer than peacocks. Divine Pearl Harbor star
Josh Hartnett (below left) drives his
entourage crazy because he cuts his
own hair (and not very well at that).
Apparently he hates sitting in a barber's chair for even a milli-second.



Poplet-turned-actress
Mandy Moore (right), who
hits the big screen this
month in *The Princess*Diaries, might like
to know that her
boyfriend, Wilmer
Valderrama of *That*70's Show, has been
getting pelvic with
other chicks. Luckily,

he was at LA's Deep club, and was strutting his stuff on the dance floor. And he did trot off home alone.

■ Anyone think that the Bizkit's Fred Durst (left) is a beer-guzzlin', road-rippin' hard ass? Well he can be classy when he wants to. He and his posse hit Hollywood's swanky Las Palmas club recently and swigged bottles of very pricey Cristal champagne. The tipsy Master Durst left without tipping the waitress, but rang 24 hours later to

apologise and offer her a phat tip on his credit card. What a gent!

'N Sync's JC for his shameless honesty. The multi-millionaire claims he wears socks and underwear once and then bins 'em! Seems a bit wasteful to us, but as he's the only member of the band who's single, we're prepared to overlook a little foible like being too darn rich for his own good.

■ They don't call it the CATwalk for nothing. At a recent screening of Mariah Carey's new flick, *Glitter*, model-turned-actress Tyra Banks was heard dissing the movie big time, ranting about how the singer was in dire need of acting lessons. And this from the girl whose role in *Coyote Ugly* consisted of bardancing and one line of dialogue!

Mariah survives her recent clawing by a v catty Tyra Banks























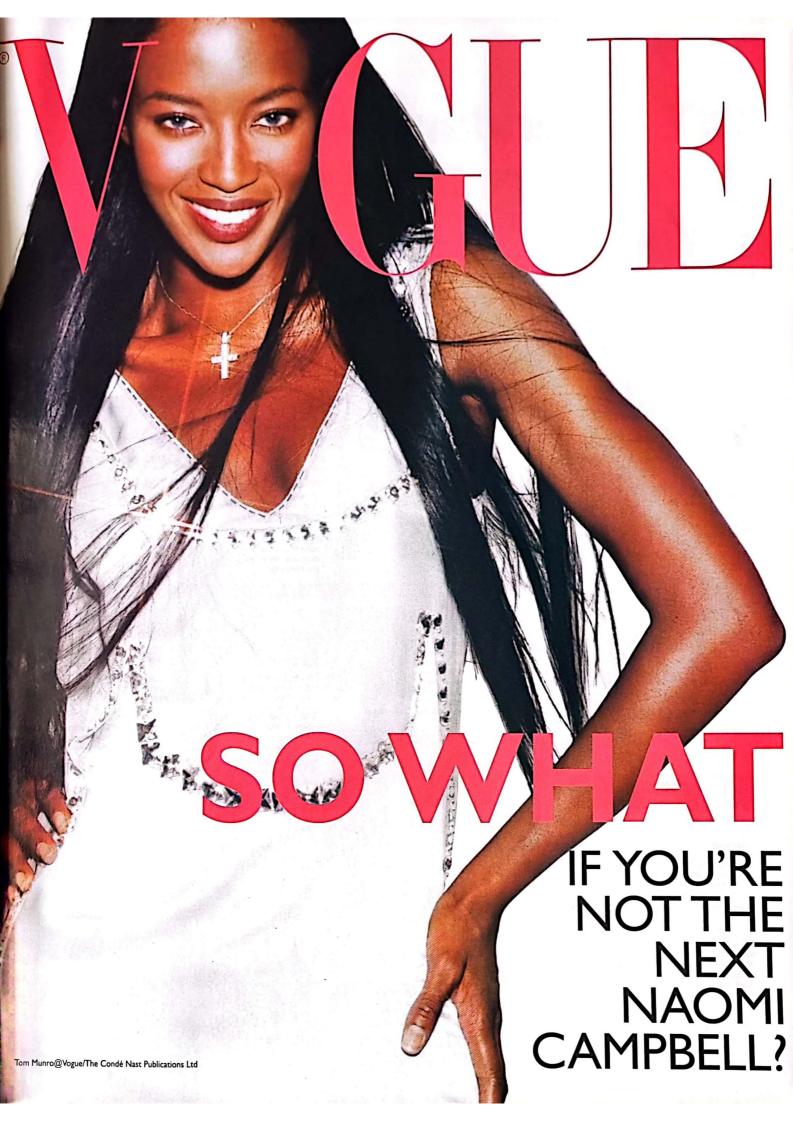








s easy to get carried away at hristmas time cos the nature of ir capitalist society is built upon eed. Stop the sickness and spat thought for the true meaning of hristmas. It's people, not gifts, at matter. Peace, maggots!



TXT Calendal Win a fantastic prize - every day of the month!

touch of magic to - we've got ten Harry Potter covers to give away.

Relive your

moments with

Ant, Dec and

Best Of SM:T

Cat on The

Live So Far.

It's out today

Take some time

a copy of Get

Over It, starring

There are DVDs

for five lucky winners!

Kirsten Dunst.

out and chill with



SM tv

get over it



Essential listening for the hols - there are 15 copies of Smash Hits 2002 up for grabs!



Put your best pout for with a shimmery lip glaze from Bloom. There are ten on offer.

Girl pov rules in Josie And The Pussycats there are five **DVDs** from MGM Home

Entertainment to be won.

phatest. funklest

beats on the planet, grab a copy of Finger Lickin' Thang 2. Featuring a host of celeb DJs, (including Plump DJs), we have five CDs and T-shirts on offer.

Text: TXT SMASH

what It's

manage

want to



a pop nd? Then you'll love PlayStation's game, Popstar Maker. There are five up for grabs, plus five record bags. Text: TXT BLOOM

Party the night away to the top club anthems with Kiss' Hitlist album. There are 15 copies



Text: TXT KISS

Text: TXT JOSIE

EVOLUTION Win one of 15 packs from the hit flick

Evolution, including a space hopper frishee

soundtrack and DVD.



Perfect for all those chilled evenings

with your lad - there are ten Pure R&B 4 CDs up for grabs.

and we've got 15 of 'em!

4 2 4 1 ...



these delicious caramel fingers from Cadbury - we got eight cases for chocaholics to fight over!

Rimmel's Hide The Blemish is just the job for covering up any nasty-looking spots - we've got 80 to give away.



Text TXT SMILE

Text TXT R&B

Featuring a host of party

tracks, Cream Anthems 2002 is a must for your collection! There are ten up for grabs.

Text: TXT OVER

and CD soundtracks of the film

Text: TXT CHOCS

Text: TXT RIMMEL

Gotta sweet tooth? Then don't

simply dip the lollipop into the

dust and let it crackle away in

miss your chance to win one

of six boxes of Crazy Dips -

your mouth!

Text TXT CREAM

Impress



r mates with a cool phone cover that changes colour and a nifty e for your computer from Creative Expressions, There are two sets to be won. Call 0113 244 0014 for more info.

Stay one step ahead of your mates with the latest pop news sent direct to your phone. There are ten acks up for grabs from lobox.

You won't want to miss the chance to win one o five signed signed

pictures from Mis-Teea!

Text:TXT SWEET

29



Text: TXT MIS-TEEQ

ZIVAST

one of ten Ultima Karaoke Chart **Videos from Avid** Entertainment. www.avidgroup.co.uk



Always texting mates?

you'll love txt talk written by

J17's Chantelle Horton. We've got ten copies to give away. Text: TXT TALK

Text: TXT COLOUR

TERRITRAT



Now Phats what we call music! There are five

signed CDs and photos on offer from funky DJs Phats and Small.

Travis fans miss out on their chance to win a copy of

More Than Us - Live In Glasgow. There are five DVDs and videos waiting for you.

Text: TXT SING

6 Be like Madonna or **Britney and** win your own personalised give away. Visit

gold disc! We've got two to www.golddisc.co.uk for more info.

You're in the army now - or

you could be with one of these cool military-style bags from Dolcis. There are ten up for grabs.

Text: TXT MIRROR

Text: TXT CATS

Text: TXT PHATS

Text: TXT TRAVIS

Text: TXT GOLD

Text: TXT ARMY

Can't be bothered to go out? Then chill with the cool comedy, Cats And Dogs. There are five DVDs or videos to be won.

Bath-time will be ultra relaxing with this Party Popper set from Eyeko. It contains a swe

-smelling candle and bath treats. There are ten to take away.

Text: TXT PARTY

He won't be able to resist vou when you show off this gorgeous lip colour! There are 80 Rimm lipsticks up for grabs.



Text: TXT LIPPY

HOW TO WIN

BLOOM' on 16 December

Alternatively, pop your name and address on the back of a postcard, with the name of the freebie (eg: 'Mis-Teeq Album') and send it to J17 Txt Calendar, Endeavour House, 189 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8JG. Only one freebie per postcard. Closing date for postal entries is 10 Jan 2002. Winners will be selected at random from text and postal entries after the closing date.

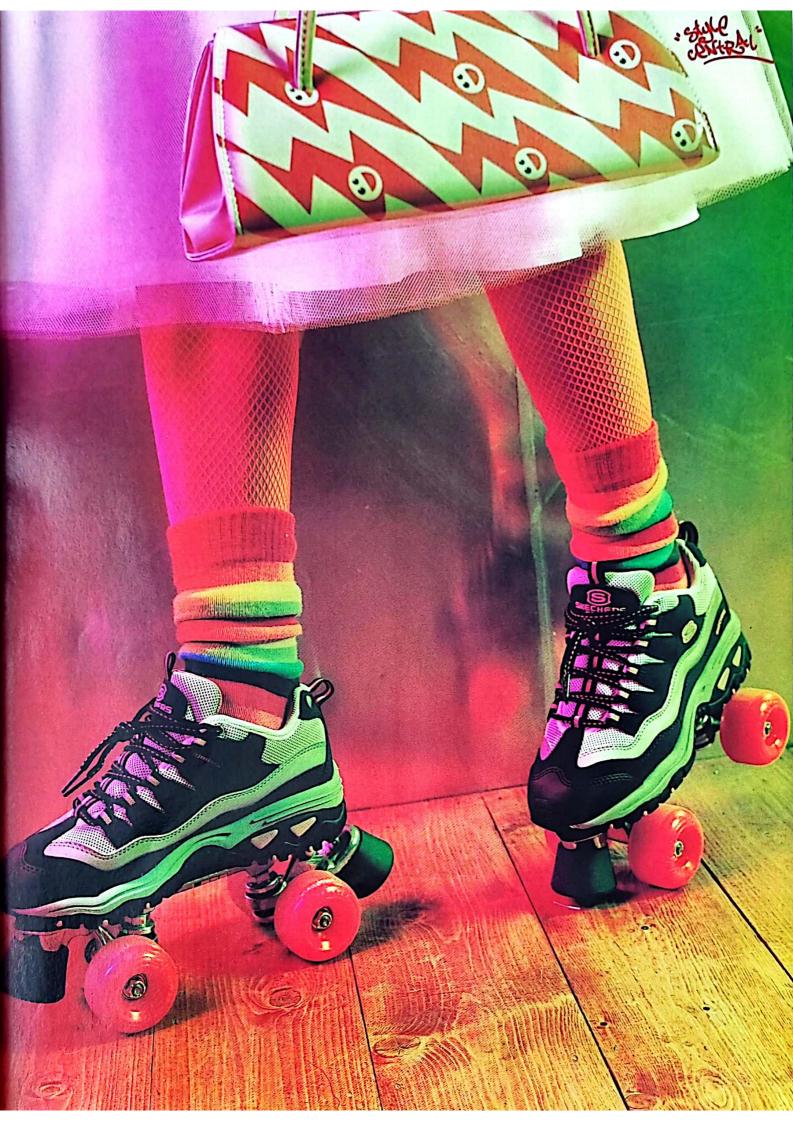
32 J17

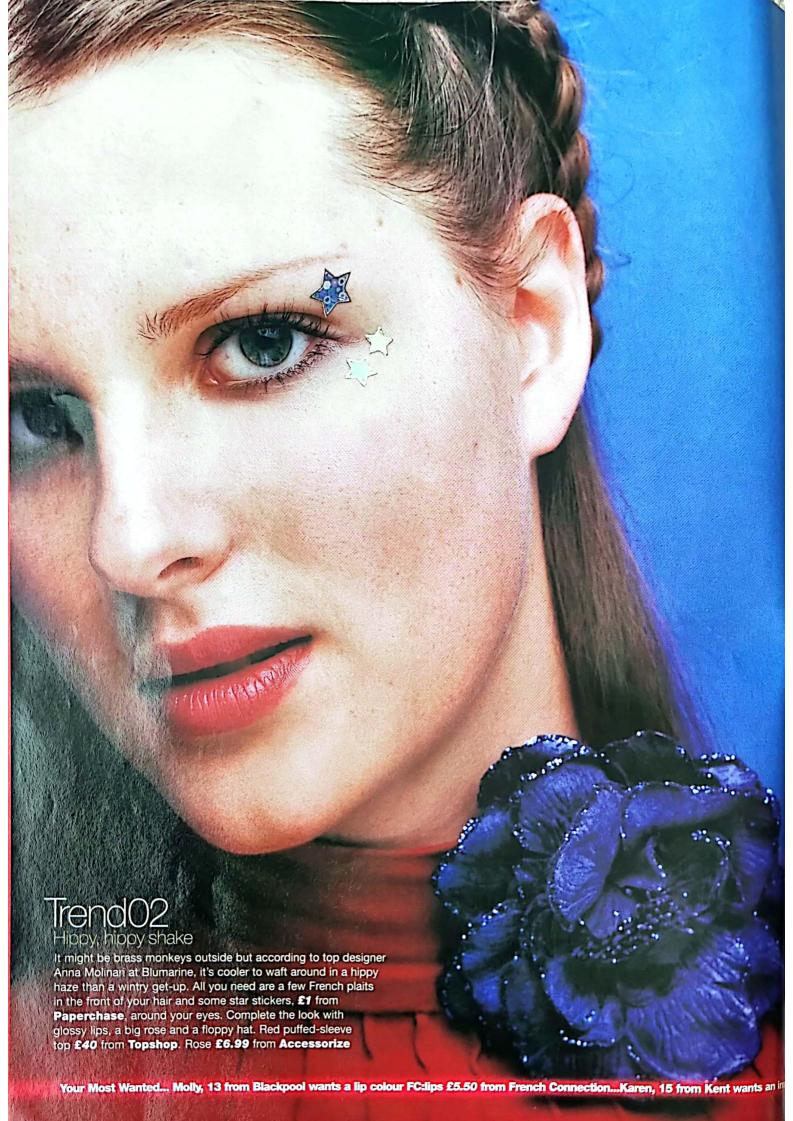


The bit of the mag for essential shopping and top trends...

Trend01

Girlfriends, it's time for Christmas shopping, so you gotta get yourself some wheels! Don't go hot-wiring your parents' car, mind - ge your feet into a pair of train skates by Skechers. Leave other shoppers eatin' your dust as you skate away wit all the cool bargains. A bit pricey at around £100 but, hey, think of all the bus far you'll be saving. As far as trainers are concerned, if the ain't got four wheels, they a going anywhere! For stocking info, call 01707 655955 or to www.skechers.com.







Twenty four seven The information style highway...



We've gone scenty-mental over this new limited-edition perfume, FCUK Jeans, £20 from French Connection. Not only does it have a wonderfully exotic, warm whiff but it comes in a cool denim rhinestone-studded purse that doubles up as a mini make-up bag. Pure jeanius!





Cord blimey!

Style queens everywhere know corduroy is the latest must-have and those top peeps at Levi's have produced a killer range of two-tone corduroy, which, according to model Michelle, is well comfy to wear. We totally rate this belted coat, £95 by Levi's Engineered Jeans, and bootleg jeans, £55 by RED TAB Home Laundry. Well cool! For stockists, call 01604 599 752 or check out www.levis.com



The hip list Shop till you drop... Christmas pressies



Tom wears Mickey Mouse sweatshirt £25 from Rokit. Chantel wears dazzle pony logo T-shirt £20, belt £15 both by Paul Frank



Black logo top £16 from Mango, jeans £67 from Pash, leather gloves £15 bag £18 both from Topshop

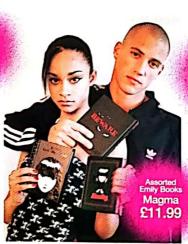




Black track top £45 from Rokit



Pink striped jumper £25 from Top Shop



Tom wears track top £45 from Rokit. Chantel wears one-shoulder top £9.99 from H&M



Logo T-shirt £18 from Pink Soda, cartoonprint skirt £60.99 from Super Lovers



Beauty Spot We want swanky Christmas gifts and we want 'em now...



◆ Charmed World One Stop Spell Shop £11.50 available from Pout

Stila All Over Body Shimmer £23 available from Space NK

> mo, Moss and Lagoon Eye Palette Trio £25.95 from Bloom Boots and House of Fraser



Ralph Lauren set £35 from chemists and department stores



from Ruby & Millie @ Boots



Noir Lamé Gloss Eyes Cheeks £24 from Chanel



The Pupa Sweet Kit for eyes, lips and cheeks £12.50 from

> Honey Sparkly, Sweet Body Powder £18 from Urban Decay @ Boots and House of Fraser

Hard Candy Trailer Trash nail polish £9.95 from Selfridges and selected Boots





What's that on your cheek?
Nothing, its perfect!

hn! Its moved

Oh it's chocolate!

Chunky Chocolate! Chip?

With double chocolate!

Not a spot then.

Getting your face looking spotlessly clean is easy. New Clean & Clear Fresh Foam Wash cleans effectively and contains an ingredient known to help prevent breakouts.

Its soft foaming lather leaves your skin looking and feeling really clean and fresh.

Now wash that chocolate off your face.

Clean & Clear and under control.



control.

Believe the hype Hair and make-up artist Emma Osbourne, 25, creates four looks for the festive season



Emma Osbourne has primped and preened the likes of Cat Deeley, the Spice Girls, U2, and the girls from Hollyoaks and EastEnders. And when she's not busy glamming up stars,

you'll find her working on location for loads of mags. So who better to let us in on the latest Yule hair and make-up trends?

LOOK #1 "This gold look is perfect for Christmas. Just make up your face with your usual foundation, then take a gold eye cream – I like the ones on sale at Screenface, but you can use an eyeshadow instead – and with your finger smudge the colour onto the side of your eyes, not the lids. Add gold dust to your neck and shoulders. Finish off with a flick in your hair – it only takes 30 seconds to curl the ends with hot tongs – and a spritz of gold glitter hairspray."

LOOK #2 "Everyone uses silver glitter but I like to do things differently. Turquoise or green are the latest colours and they look great under the eyes. The best way to apply your glitter and make it stick is to dip your brush in water before putting it in the glitter. The water helps it stick to your skin and avoids that greasy look you get when you use Vaseline. Apply lip gloss, then twist the front of your hair into a knot and secure with grips. I used a snowflake earring from Agatha as a clip."

LOOK #3 "For a seriously shimmery party look, try an iridescent white dust with a slight purple shimmer. Barry M do the best range of dazzle dusts. But the secret to this look isn't the eyeshadow, it's the way it's blended – it should look sheer, not heavy. The final touch is frosty lip shimmer. Then either plait your hair and pull it back into a ponytail or plait the front section and wear it hanging down to the side."

LOOK #4 "I'm all for experimenting with colours. On Nina's eyes I went for turquoise, green and purple eyeshadow and touched her lashes with blue mascara. For a slightly more sophisticated effect, stick to muted shades; if you want to get noticed, try clashing brights. I also slicked down Nina's hair and made it smooth and glossy – this is a look that never goes out of fashion."

Fancy a job like Em's? Here's how she did it...
"I went to the London College of Fashion
where they do great BTEC and HND make-up
courses. This acts as a good training ground.
Straight after college I assisted other make-up
artists. When I had gained enough experience
– after about two years – I got an agent who
now deals with my bookings. The job sounds
more glamorous than it is, but I love it."





The Collective

Add a bit of glam and pin on a brooch...





Silver star £12 from Mikey



Coloured diamanté circle £15 from Mikey





Red jewelled circle £9.99 from Accessorize



Hello Kitty £1 from Ad Hoc



Silver butterfly £12.95 from Jon Richard @ Debenhams



Diamanté dog £18 from Agatha



Poodle £20 from Johnny Loves Rosie



Dragonfly

£9.99 from

Jon Richard 6

Debenhams



Vintage swirl
£10 from
Bazaar Vintage
@ Freedom @
Topshop



Blue circle £2.99 from **H&M**



Black strawberry £15 from Mikey



Pink sequinned flower £10 from Marks & Spence



Diamanté heart £6 from Diva G Topshop



Diamanté spider £10 from Freedom @ Topshop





Green cross £8 from **Ad Hoc**



Silver diamond £26 from Johns Loves Rosle



Butterfly £26 from Cherry Chau 6 Selfridges



Pink jewelled diamond £22 from Johnny Loves Rosie





Bouquet £22 from Cherry Chau 6 Selfridges



Eagle £2.95 from H&M



Red lips £10 from Mikey



Purple and gold jewelled circle £8 from Ad Hoc



Large red flower £14.95 from Cherry Chau @ Selfridges



Red strawberry
£24 from Cherry
Chau @ Selfridges



Black circle £9.99 from Accessoriz



Silver flower £12.99 from Jon Richard © Debenhams



Cameo £6 from Freedom @ Topshop



Skull and crossbones £4 from Fiona & Luk

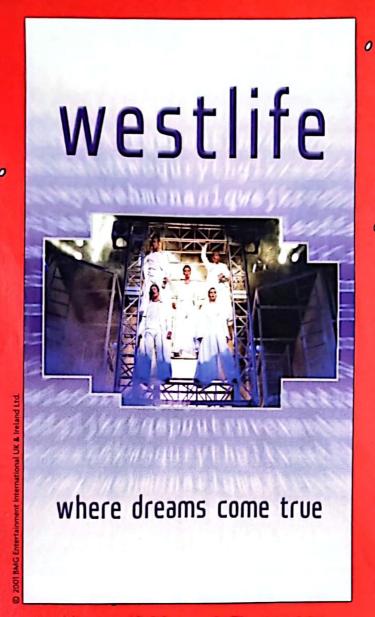


Union Jack mouth £1.50 from Claire's Accessories

Like this gear but don't know where to get hold of it? Turn to Store Detectives on p114 for stockist information...

£12.99 on video

O



Also available on DVD £16.99

Wake up with Westlife this Christmas.

WOOLWORTHS

WELL WORTH IT

0

Subject to availability.

Killer Christmas offers!

One lucky reader wins £300 CASH! Plus, we've got loads of special offers and freebies up for grabs



6 sets of Avon make-up

Worth over £42 each, these Avon make-up sets include: two pots of Color Trend Squeezie Nail Enamel in Sorbet and Champagne, One Clever Pallett, two tubes of Cyber Star Lip Gloss in Modem Mocha and Start Up Pink, Glossy Black Mascara, Eye Gems, Cyber Star Body Paint, Glitz and Glimmer Roll-On Body Gel, a sequinned choker and cuff

Send your name and address on a postcard marked 'Avon Competition' to PR Dept, Avon Cosmetics, Nunn Mills Road, Northampton NN1 5PA by 10 Jan 2002.



35 Pantene sets

Win one of 35 Pantene Pro-V Sheer Volume Collection Sets! Each set, worth around £15, includes Sheer Volume Shampoo. Conditioner, Root Booster, Volumising Mousse, Lifting Gel and Healthy Hold Spray.

To win, send your name and address on a postcard to J17 'Pantene' Competition, RGN, 347 Fulham Road, London SW10 9TW by 10 Jan 2002.



Up to 50% off Ultimo

SPECIAL OFFERS

Ultimo is offering all J17 readers up to 50% off their award-winning Perfect Line seam-free lingerie. Choose from the following: Camisole £9 (RRP £15); Bra top £6 (RRP £10); T-shirt £10 (RRP £20); Hi-leg, Tanga, Minibriefs, Thongs, £3.50 each (RRP £7 each). Available in red, silver, indigo, blue, cream, baby pink, baby blue, black and white. Sizes small, medium and large.

To place your order please call 0845 1303232 between 9am-5.30pm Mon-Fri, quoting ref: J17 zine. Payment can be made by Visa, Visa Delta, Mastercard, itch or Cheque. Please note that p&p on all orders is £2.50.



5 Killah tees

We've got five Killah tees up for grabs, each worth £35. To win, send your name and address on a postcard to J17 'Killah' Competition, RGN, 347 Fulham Road, London SW10 9TW by 10 Jan 2002.

6 £50 Faith vouchers Faith is celebrating the launch

of its spectacular new collection by offering six J17 readers a £50 voucher to spend in stores across the country. Use it to buy anything you like from the fabulous Faith range, which includes shoes, boots and accessories.

To win, send your name and address on a postcard to J17 'Faith' Competition, RGN, 347 Fulham Road, London SW10 9TW by 10 Jan 2002.

20% off at Pilot

Pilot is offering all J17 readers 20% off their entire range of clothing. Simply present this copy of J17 at any store nationwide to receive your exclusive discount.

TEPARS AND CONDITIONS

1. This discount is valid on full price merchandise only and does not apply to sall goods or discount outlets. 2. This discount is ented to a member of staff at the

Win! J17'S Christmas cash bonanza!

Don't miss your chance to win an amazing £300 in cash this Christmas! Yep, that's right, one lucky reader will be able to buy themselves an entire new party wardrobe, treat your mates and grab some sale bargains, too. All you have to do is answer the question below and send it on a postcard with your name and address to 'J17 Cash Bonanza' at the usual J17 address by 10 Jan 2002.

Q: How much is the bow hairclip that the Scene Queen's Tim Shady is wearing in this issue?

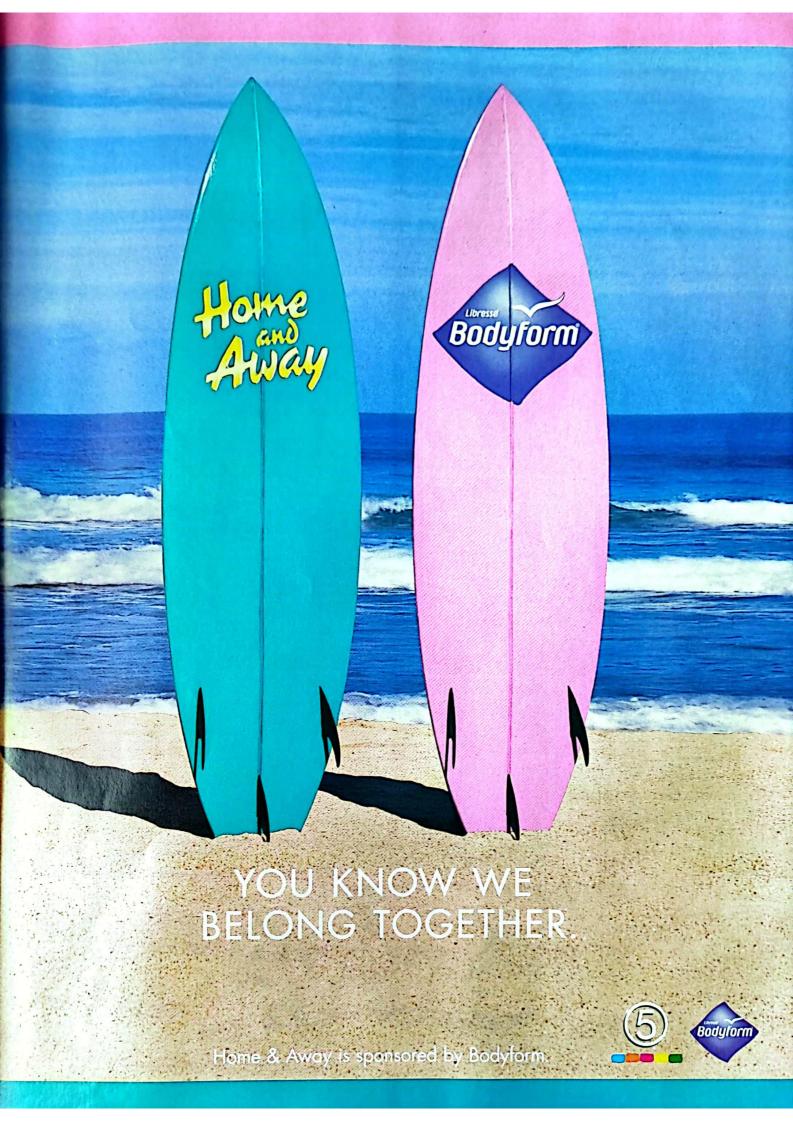
Shoot me Style hunting... Brighton pier



trainers with metallic motifs and shiny go-faster stripes. Jeans had silver paint splats and denim bags were studded and sequinned. A top tip to follow is fake fur-trimmed jackets worn with corset tops and heavy gold jewellery.

Now buy these... 1 Splattered jeans £52 by Pash 2 Fake-fur corduroy coat

- £55 from Miss Selfridge 3 Logo T-shirt £12 from Tammy
- 4 Trainers £45 from Faith, customised with glitter by J17's fashion assistant Zoe 5 Wide belt £12.99 from New Look 6 Denim studded flag bag £7 from Topshop





The Scene Queens

Solving fashion crimes is no problem for J17's very own style queens Twinkle, Raven and Lady Nutta. Even at Christmas, they never stop kickin' some serious ass!











We're getting into the party season, so loads of girls are looking for new ways to wear their hair. Whether it's curly hair they want to straighten, or black hair they want blonde, these laydees really need your help. See...



I got this covered. Lucy, you need to go for a spiky style. Get a choppy cut, work it with some strong gel or wax and dress it up with something sparkly. A bit like this...















Double CD

All the greats in one place.

MOOLWORTHS **WELL WORTH IT**







This increases

momentum and
momentum and
legs inwards
his legs inwards
hi

the less likely he is

Serving Solven Serving Solven Serving Solven Serving Solven Serving Solven Serving Ser

Dancing (aka Science)

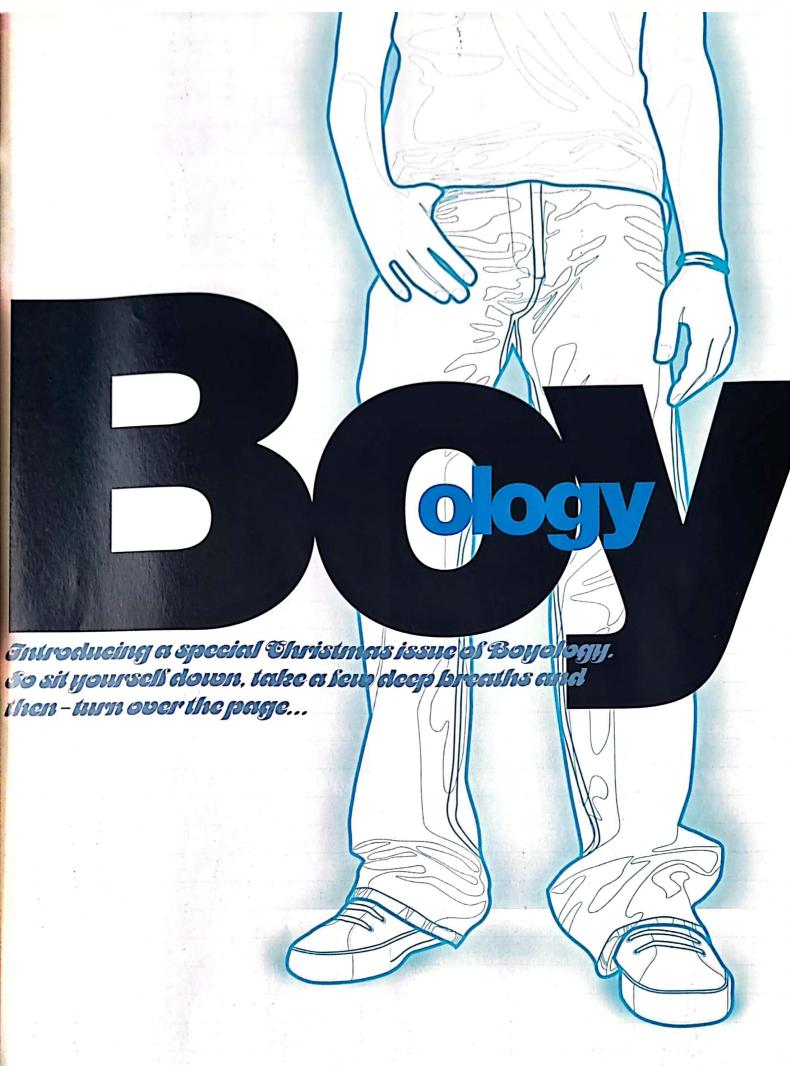
Call 0800 660 800

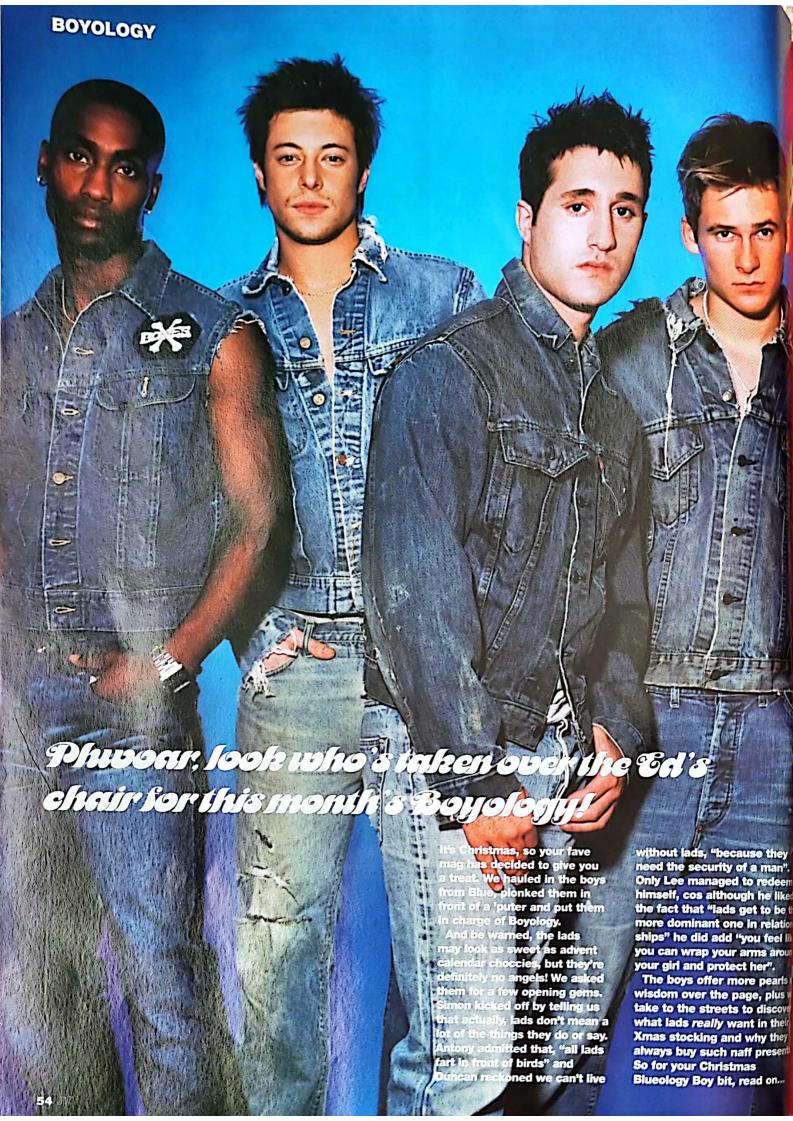
Or visit www.scienceyear.com

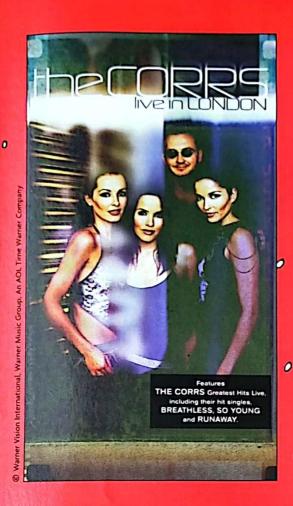
for your free Science Year Kit and find out more

Don't try this without training

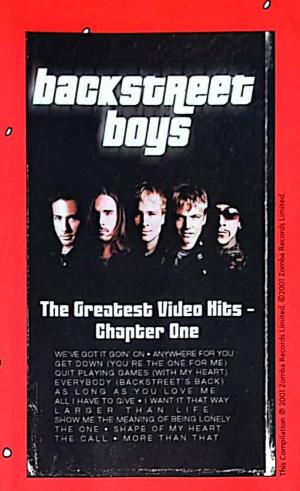
Applies to England only







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This'll leave you breathless.

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Also available at www.woolworths.co.uk and sky active

WELL WORTH IT

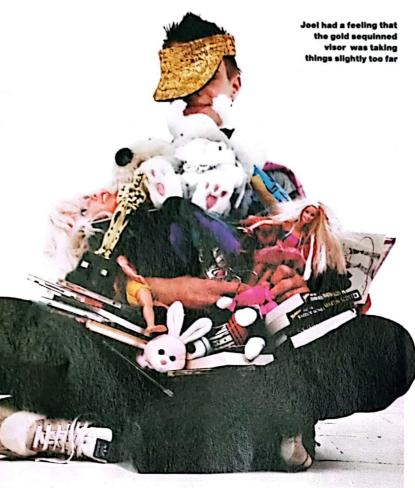
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B9551291

Boy behaviour decoded #4 Buying crap presents

Shopping trips strike terror into the heart of us lads at the best of times. It means that, instead of spending our precious Saturday in front of our PlayStations, we have to waste our day being dragged through crowds of people, receiving death stares from sales staff and arguing about which shop to go to next.

But Christmas shopping is even worse. We're forced into shops we've never heard of to buy presents for someone whose dress size hasn't seemed important until now. Which is why on 25 December you're likely to get a gift from your lad that you wouldn't even give your gran.

Here's the present score: cosmetics are always a final resort, so a wicker basket filled with bath salts means your boyfriend shopped (maniacally) at 5.30pm on Christmas Eve. Chocolates are the safe (read: easy) option. Yes, you'll moan about them being "Sooo unhealthy, I just couldn't", but scoff the lot. Underwear will always be red, black or lacy, because we're picturing you wearing it. That's why we've never bought you a cardigan!

Our lameness can be explained, though. Looking at anything remotely girlie makes us feel a bit, well, pervy. We don't know what mascara is, let alone the right brand to buy, and frankly Topshop is our idea of Hell. I reckon the only way to get it right is by making presents ourselves. So if your lad gives you a Celine Dion compilation tape or a card made from pasta shapes, try to appreciate it. After all, it's the thought that counts... isn't it?

Blue Next Do

The boys from Blue sort your dating dilemn

Shavin' mad!

Dear BND, I fancy a new hairdo for Christmas and I'm thinking of getting a Nichola *Big Brother*-type crop. Do boys like this look or is it a bit severe?

Lyndsey (15), Derby

Simon: Personally I like girls to be girls. I do like short hair, but I think a shaved head is a big no no! Lee: Do what you want darlin' and don't think about anyone else. All that matters is that you like it. And if you don't, it will grow back soon enough. I've cut my hair before and hated it, but you don't know until you try. You can't live your life in one shade of colour (or one haircut! - J17); everyone needs a bit of excitement.

Is he worth it?

Dear BND, I've been seeing my boyfriend for nearly two months now, but I don't know whether this is long enough to consider buying him a Christmas pressie. Will he reckon I'm a bit keen if I get him something? Carla (16), Sunderland

Duncan: No, course he won't.
You buy presents for your
friends so why not buy them
for your boyfriend? I'm sure
he'll get you something and

then you'll feel bad. I think you should buy him a gift the has a special meaning...
Lee: Nah, course he won't think you're keen. Presents are a way of showing your affection. Buy him something tomorrow if you feel like it, why wait till Christmas? Just don't blow all your cash!

Two-timing snogger!

Dear BND, Is it wrong to snog other blokes when you're going steady? My boyfriend says he's going to snog other people at parties and I don't think it's fair if I don't!

Anna (16), Macclesfield

Antony: You're only 16 years old! Go out, enjoy yourself and don't rush into anything too serious just yet.

Lee: I don't think you should get off with other lads when you've got a steady boyfriend - it's not fair on anyone. If he's told you he's planning of kissing other girls, you should dump him instead of going behind his back. But at least he's been up front with you.

Boy Next Door will be back next month. Write to him with your romantic predicaments at the usual address, or e-mail them co of sarah.williams@emap.com

"I'm not arrogant, I'm not flash, I'm not bigheaded, I'm happy. I was happy before the fame. I'm just a local lad who's worked hard."

David Beckham





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(Better clear the furniture)



Saturday 22nd December at 7pm. See Steps live from Manchester. Just £9.99, only on



Shift the sofa. Roll up the rug. Steps are coming round for Christmas. Catch their sell-out Gold Greatest Hits tour live on channel 770, featuring songs from their number one album Gold. Don't worry if you miss it, you can watch it every 3 hours over the Christmas week! For information call 08705 800 888. All Telewest and NTL customers contact your operator.

BOYOLOGY

Boy

What lads really want you to buy them this Christmas...

"This might sound boring, but I'd really like it if she bought me some nice jeans or a jumper. Something trendy from a good label though – I don't

James Lewis (15)

want anything cheap

"I don't want any slushy, romantic presents like cuddly toys. A decent CD or some nice clothes will do me fine." Matt Davis (16)

and nasty."

"The best thing a girl could buy me is a pair of concert tickets so we could go to a gig together. I'd really love to see something grungy like Blink 182."

James Inglis (15)

"I'd like to get a CD. Not just anything, though. Something rare that she knows I like, so it's more personal."

James Cox (16)

"I like aftershave – Davidoff is my favourite. But a girl would have to know me pretty well to find that out.

I'd hate to get the wrong one cos then I'd have to wear it, so I guess socks are the safer option."

Alex Verjee (14)

"This is probably too expensive for a gift from a girlfriend, but the one thing I really want is a PlayStation 2. Is that greedy?" Adam Rushing (15)

"An England football shirt would be good. I don't know if many girls would think of buying that for their boyfriend, but it would be a great gift."

Mark Allen (14)

"OK, it's cheesy, but I'd like to get a really nice text message. But I'd want a proper gift as well though!"

Guy George (15)



Chris: "I've fancied Elliot for ages, but he didn't know about it. We've been good friends for a while and that's one of the best things about it – we already know each other so there's no embarrassing silences when we're together. We sit next to one another in science class and that's where we first decided to get together. But the teacher has separated us because we flirt too much! What is weird is that everyone at school knew that Chris and I would get together before we did."

Elliot: "Chris and I have only been seeing each of for a week and this is our first day out together because it's half-term. I feel a bit weird being out in public with him, but no-one seems to be paying us any attention really. I came out recently at school is live tried to tell my parents but it hasn't happened yet. It's hard keeping something this big from them but I'll tell them soon — I'll have to really before the see this in J17 and get a huge shock!

Blue's girl challenge

How much do Antony, Lee, Simon and Duncan honestly know about girls?









Name three things that girls do in the bathroom...
Antony: "They phone up blokes and really turn them on. This girl used to ring me up and say: 'I'm in the bath', and it would really get me! Why do they do that?"
Simon: "They shave their legs and leave the hair all over the bath. Uuuugh!"

Duncan: "They go into the bathroom together and tart themselves up a bit."

Lee: "And they sing."

Name three things girls always do at Christmas parties...

Antony: "They snog blokes under the mistletoe and cause loads of problems. I know a lot about women and that's why I don't have a girlfriend."

Duncan: "Get drunk, fall over and end up in bed with someone."

Name three things girls do to get your attention at gigs...

Antony: "They throw their knickers onto the stage and shout stuff like: 'Ant, I want you in my pants.'"

Simon: "They stare at you with really flirty eyes.

That's the kind of girl who gets my attention – the ones who don't scream, but just stare."

Lee: "I'm attracted to girls who really look like

Lee: "I'm attracted to girls who really look like they're having a good time. Enjoy yourself and I'll enjoy it with you!"

the shirt off

Fancy snuggling up in Michael Owen's
England shirt at night? BT Cellnet and
Umbro – England kit sponsors – have
teamed up to give away a footie pack. It
contains an England shirt signed by Michael Owen, a
Pro Training top, a Siemens C45 mobile with £160worth of call time vouchers, and a BT Cellnet football
voucher to get all the results sent to your phone. Four
runners-up win football vouchers, too! All you have to
do is design a clip-on phone cover for us. Rules: us
any colours, words or accessories you want!
Send to 'BT Cellnet Competition', J17,
Endeavour House, 189 Shaftesbury Avenue,

London WC2H 8JG by 10 Jan. For terms and cor



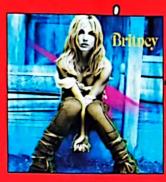
BTCelln



of lads think they're of 'above average' intelligence. We ain't saying a word!

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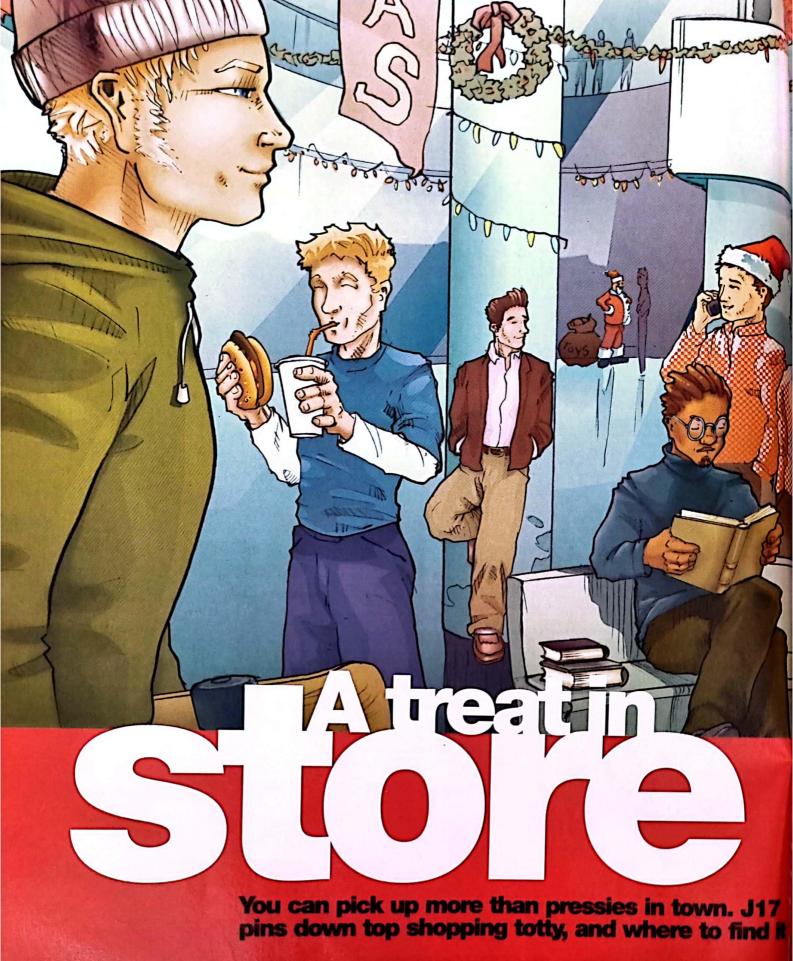


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The Burger King Fling



How to spot him:
He's the lad stuffing his
face with chips.

Find him: Flirting in a fast food joint with

barbecue sauce all over his chops. **He's looking for:** A mate to share his chocolate shake.

Suggested line: "D'ya want to have some of my sauce?"

The Vinyl Countdown



How to spot him: He's plugged into Walkman 24/7, wears obscure artboy T-shirts, and won't leave the house until he's gelled his fin 'just's **Find him:** Alone in the imported gangsta rap section.

He's looking for: Someone to discuss the globalisation of house music with.

Suggested line: "D12 are so artificial... have you heard the new Aphex Twin?"



The Skate Date



How to spot him: He wears a woolly hat – even in the summer – and is welded to his skateboard.

Find him: Performing skate tricks on the stairs.

He's looking for: Someone to kiss his grazed knees better. Suggested line: "I did a double kickflip, they were, like, 'No way!'."



The Gap Chap

How to spot him: His idea of 'casual' is a pair of lovinglypressed khakis.

Find him: Lingering outside girls' shops waiting for his sister/mate.

He's looking for: A girl who looks like she's from the Gap TV ad.

Suggested line: "My first love? The spot's still vacant..."

The Brylcreem Brigadier



How to spot him: He's got a gold earring and uses more hair gel than your kid bro on a date. Find him: In Halfords

with six identically-dressed mates. **He's looking for:** A girl with a Superdrug discount card. **Suggested line:** "My five mates fancy you."

The BMX Bandit



How to spot him: How can you miss him in that day-glo tracksuit?. Find him: Scooting around on wheels,

being chased out of the precinct. He's looking for: A bunny-hopping, break-dancing babe. Suggested line: Don't bother talking – stick a twig through his spokes and wait till he wakes up.

The Bookworm



How to spot him: He's the intense-looking guy in a black polo neck. Find him: In the library or a bookshop,

or on the town hall steps.

He's looking for: A girl to attend poetry reading nights with.

Suggested line: "That's a great read. I adore his use of commas."

Dixons Dave



How to spot him: He's in the shirt, tie and suit trousers combo, and is usually fiddling with some electrical item.

Find him: Looking for the two-forone minidisc deals in Dixons or Tandy. He's looking for: Someone to play on his PlayStation2 with.

Suggested line: "Need some spark in your life?"

The Ulble With boys

21st-century lad is more prone than ever to depression, drug abuse and suicide. What's worse, he won't talk about it. So what does Luke, 16, think?

ou might think it's easy being a boy: no periods, no overprotective dads and no rules to stick to. But the truth is, in 2002, boys have never been so troubled.

The evidence: boys are more likely to suffer from mental disorders, including depression. They're performing worse at school - girls do better at GCSEs and A-levels - and the gap has been widening since 1988. An estimated 25 per cent of anorexics aged between seven and 14 are lads, while one in three 15-year-old boys has tried drugs, often as an escape route to block out problems or worries. There has also been a relentless rise in the suicide rates of young men (15 to 24 year olds) - 160 per cent between 1970 and 1990.

Suffer in silence

Much of the problem stems from the fact that boys find it a lot harder than girls to ask for help and talk about their problems.

"I wouldn't have a clue how to bring up subjects like love, exam worries or even just being on a bit of a downer, without getting laughed at," admits Gareth, 16, in a rare moment of openness. "Me and my mates avoid going in for anything too meaningful."

Psychologist Michelle Elliot explains: "Generally, girls are socially more skilful at verbal communication. But teenage boys, at the peak of self-consciousness, find it very difficult to talk. Even if they can communicate on that level, they believe it's wrong."

Just asking!

A boy's inability to talk about his emotions is only partly down to wanting to be one of the lads. The rest is down to biology. Studies prove that boys' emotions are handled by the primitive part of the brain, which deals with the desire to fight or run away. (Girls' are handled by the cortex, which allows us to turn feelings into words.)

"The bad news is it's getting worse," says Michelle. "With more broken homes, boys lack a father figure to talk to. Male role models don't stretch much further than inarticulate footballers and

aggressive rappers. At the same time, girls are more outgoing than ever and can't be bothered with the silent types."

But before you write all boys off as grouches (or ourselves as unapproachable), go easy. Boys admit to confiding in girls the most. As 14-year-old Steve says, "Girls can pick up on what you're really thinking and don't make fun of you."

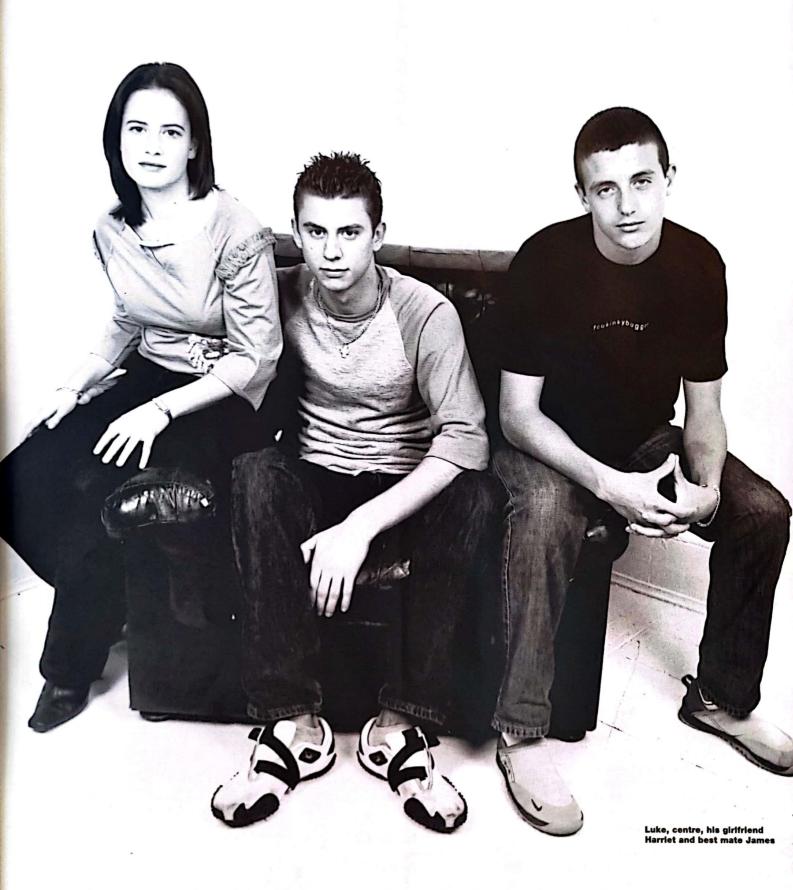
Friends like these

To see if this is true, J17 took one 16-year-old male, Luke, his girlfriend Harriet, 17, and best mate James, 16, and asked: how good is Luke at handling his emotions?

"Luke's quite open compared to most boys," says Harriet. "But then, he knows he can trust me. If there's something wrong and he doesn't say, I can tell from the way he acts! Then I get it out of him."

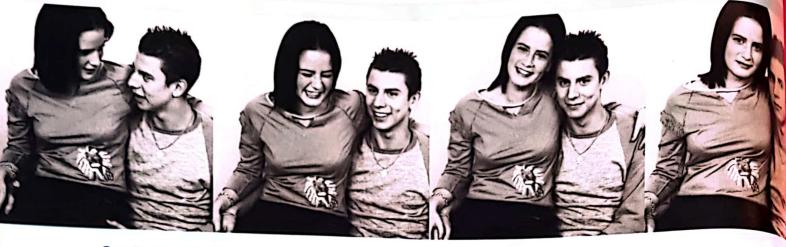
James admits Luke isn't always so open with him. "There have been times when he's bottled stuff up," he says. "He had some bad experiences with his last girlfriend that I guess he wanted to deal with on his own. But we are close, and can have a deep conversation about girls, life, the future."

Luke agrees: "I'm not shy but I don't really talk about my home life or sex: certain things are personal. Generally, though, I like talking to people. You get your worries off your chest."



"There have been times when Luke's bottled stuff up - he's had some bad experiences I guess he wanted to deal with on his own"

BOYS IN CRISIS



Can he handle it?

Luke seems to be fairly open, but how do his mates reckon he'd *really* handle the following touchy subjects?

James is spending loads

of time with his new girlfriend. You're fed up and feel left out. Even (dare we say it) lonely. How do you deal with it? Harriet: "I reckon he'd be pissed off and moan to me. Then suggest going on a boys' night out to get rid of the girls! He'd probably make a bit of a joke about it in front of everyone rather than pull his friend aside, but you'd know that he meant it."

James: "He'd be annoyed but rather than make a scene, he'd

lad, it might get nasty. To his friends he'd give it, 'Oh I don't care, I didn't like her anyway'."

James: "His first instinct would be to double-check the story. Then he'd ask Harriet what was going on. He's not a big sulker but he'd be upset and probably finish it. He wouldn't find it difficult to talk to me about it, but I would try and make him think rationally."

Luke: "I'd speak to James and get

Luke: "I'd speak to James and get to know the whole situation. I'd probably know the guy, so I'd have a go at him, then see what Harriet had to say. If she had cheated on me, we'd split because that's one thing I don't stand for. Then I'd try my hardest to go out that Friday night and pull a couple of girls. It's not right but a better way to get over it than hiding in my room."

Luke: "I could see myself going to my dad. And Harriet, but she'd just say, 'Oh, it'll be alright'. If I was behind because I wasn't intelligent enough to catch up or pass, I'd be embarrassed to bring it up or ask for help, but not if I was just stuck."

So it seems that boys do find it easier to open up to us girls. But before we start feeling all smug, remember we need them too. "Friendships with boys are important for us too," says Michelle Elliott. "It means we can learn to communicate on different levels and deal with people who aren't necessarily on our wavelength." Sounds like the best excuse we ever heard to get friendly with lads!

"If he was having problems at school, Luke would be more likely to talk to his girl friends."

organise a night out. If I said no, then he'd come straight up to me and say, 'You're spending too much time with her, you've got to come out with us.' He wouldn't mess about."

Luke: "I might have a little moan to Harriet and give him the occasional dig but I know I've probably done the same with my girlfriend at some point. If he refused to come out at all though, I'd tell him he was being out of order. But it would be no big drama."

You've just found out from a mate that your girlfriend got off with a lad in the year above at a party on Saturday night. She hasn't said anything to you about it but you're gutted. What do you do? Harriet: "He wouldn't think twice about confronting me straight away. If it were true, he'd finish it completely. Then, if he knew the

You're down about school and falling well behind in your homework. The pressure to pass those exams is getting too much. Now what?

Harriet: "He'd be more wary of talking this through with his boy than his girl friends. We're more understanding and can relate it's a problem that girls would get more upset about. Even so, it would probably take a bit of coaxing to get it out of him. There's no teacher he's got a special bond with to confide in they're old and too busy." James: "He'd laugh it off in front of the boys and try to deal with it on his own. We've got quite a competitive edge going on between us... we want to be better than each other at pool, computer games, schoolwork. We don't really talk about our failures. Maybe he'd talk to his parents if he got really worried."

"We can't talk about that!"

The top five things that you'll never get a boy to discuss...

A new report reckons women gossip about 40 topics during one conversation, while men can only cope with four: work, sport, jokes and women. Fiona Harris surveyed boys in the Shropshire towns of Much Wenlood Bridgnorth and Shrewsbury to find out which subjects they steer well clear of...

1. Sex/health worries

"You can never say what you really think or ask the questions you want to because it's just too embarrassin If the subject of sex comes up in front of my parents, I completely freak out." Ollie (15)

2. School work

"I'd rather talk computer games or skateboarding than homework. I don't want it to look like I care." Gareth (16

3. Girls and love

"It doesn't go down too well with my mates. I do get emotional but I can't admit it or I'll get accused of being a wuss." Steve (17)

4. Feeling down

"I never moan or let anyone know what's going on in my head because if you start crying it would make you look completely gay." Nathan (14)

5. Other emotions

"I find it difficult to talk about anything involving emotions because I'm scared of being called a girl. That's what I call my mates when they start getting soppy." Ben (14)

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C WHAT HAPPENS WHEN U SAY HIYA™

IJACGARAGE is it the new gangsta rap?

The artists don't want it, the clubs don't want it. But the violence surrounding the UK garage scene is looking more like hip hop's gangland by the day

t's official - the sound of the streets has taken over the charts. Just ask Atomic Kitten, who claimed the number one spot for two weeks last August, until So Solid Crew blew out their Eternal Flame. Like rap in the US ten years ago, garage has gone mainstream. The Dreem Teem now have a prime-time radio show, So Solid's MC Romeo is attracting as many female admirers as Robbie Williams, and bling blingin' hotspot Ayia Napa is the new Ibiza.

But it looks like garage might be following rap's lead in more than just chart-topping popularity. As hip hop rose to chart dominance in America, it became impossible to avoid this hardcore music of the streets' association with crime. In October, Snoop Dogg, Jay-Z and ODB were all in trouble with the law for varying offences - and it looks like the garage scene is going the same way. Just two months ago, MC Romeo's 21st birthday bash made the headlines after two people were shot while the crew were performing. Earlier in the year, 18-year-old Marcus Hall was stabbed and killed outside Club @tmosphere in Luton, after watching a So Solid performance. In August there was a shooting outside London garage club Sunday School. Only one man was injured, but the biggest shock was how many clubbers pulled

out guns of their own and returned fire. Even MC Neutrino admits, "Any club you go to that plays garage, there's always fighting, there are always shootings."

"I'm talkin' 'bout cockin' a gauge in between your eyes. That'll make you drop to your knees."

Dr. Dre - Nigga Witta Gun
Not that it puts the fans off.
Garage fan Scott*, 17, reckons:
"There's always gonna be trouble because garage music is about who's got the lairiest car and the smartest clothes and showing off your wealth."

Carl*, 18, agrees and admits that at times he's scared but it doesn't stop him hitting the garage clubs. "There's this garage night called Twice As Nice and we call it Twice As Dangerous because of all the bad stuff going down there."

But Twice As Nice's owner, Steve Gordon, disputes these claims. "We haven't had any incidents at any of our clubs. I run my own security company, so I can't be training doormen and having problems in my club. I think we've got a bad name because we're coming under the banner of UK garage, even though So Solid Crew and us are totally different. So when they get bad press, it affects us. I'd like to segregate Twice As Nice from So Solid and that whole scene. There's no violence at our nights."

That's not to say that garage stars support the violence – quite the opposite. After the shootings at Romeo's party, a spokesman was quick to express the Crew's horror: "So Solid Crew very much regret the violence that broke out... they abhor violence and have made it clear on their record they want the violence to stop."

"L'il ghetto boy, playin' in the ghetto streets. Wacha gonna do when you grow up?"

Dr. Dre - L'il Ghetto Boy

So why is violence so connected to hip hop and garage music? It's mainly down to their underground roots. When Oxide and Neutrino

a stage show I wear street clothes."

Tupac - Rebel Of The Undero Ironically, it's also the underground roots that help ensure the popularity of both sounds. "Cultural change tends not to come from the mainstream, it tends to come from the edges," says Amy Smith, managing director of Nike's advertising agency. "From youth, from ethnically diverse populations, from the gay community." Garage - a lifetime away from the key changes and dance-routines of typical pop - is cool, and being associated with it gives artists a bit of street cred. That's why so many chart-

"Any club you go to that plays garage, there are always shootings." MC Neutrino

exploded onto the music scene you knew they hadn't grown up with the comforts of a middle-class home and their music reflects this. That's what both hip hop and garage stars mean when they talk about "keepin' it real". Both sounds come from the streets – for garage, that's the streets of south London; for hip hop, it's Compton, LA – and the artists made it big without the help of a wealthy family.

"I don't give a damn and it shows. And when I do

topping stars who want a new image jump on its bandwagon – think Posh Spice's Out Of Your Mind. Same with hip hop; remember Texas' collaboration with the Wu-Tang Clan?

"Got chicks, ice, platinum whips and too much dough. If you wanna try and have a go there's 25 of us each loaded with a gat."

Oxide and Neutrino - U Carri

In the same way that rappers like Eminem and Snoop Dogg big up





the use of guns and violence in songs like Kill You and Murder Was The Case, so do garage stars like Oxide and Neutrino. They use the kind of gangster talk rappers have used for years, and it's paid off in the same way. Their first single, Bound 4 Da Reload (Casualty), went straight to No 1 without any major radio backing. And, like rappers, garage artists are caught up in the lifestyle – sometimes as victims, sometimes as perpetrators. MC Neutrino was shot in the leg earlier this year,

"Will everyone stop getting shot!"

Oxide and Neutrino – sample from Bound 4 Da Reload (Casualty)
In the States, the link between violence and rap is now so serious that an annual summit is held to address the problem. Garage hasn't got its own violence summit yet, but it may not be far away. The Metropolitan Police has recently launched Operation Trident to investigate drug-related violent crime in London. Mike Fuller, head of the operation, says,

"I'm not a role model. Just cos I say go and do something, doesn't mean actually do it." Eminem

while Skat D was found guilty of assault [see panel].

But being associated with crime only seems to have made both hip hop and garage more popular. Tupac had a No 1 album, Me Against The World, while serving time in prison for sexual assault, and at the height of Snoop's murder case, his album Doggystyle went straight to no1. Crime shows that rappers live the gangster life they write about, and that their lyrics are for real. Like it or not, crime sells.

"Guns have become fashion accessories for many young people. We're not talking about levels of organisation on a par with the gangs of Los Angeles, but these people should not be underestimated."

The important thing to remember is that, like US rappers, Britain's garage heroes are not saying they're whiter than white. As Eminem says, "I'm not a role model and I don't claim to be. Just because I say go and do something, it doesn't mean

"I'll see you in court!"

It seems you can't be real without a court case. Here your guide to who's done what in the music business



to police custody on murder charges over alleged involvement in a drive-by shooting Feb 1996: acquitted of murder. Oct 2001 pleads guilty to charges of possessing drivers.



record producer Lance Rivera in 1999, Jaystabbed Rivera with a five-inch blade outside a New York club and has received through the probation for the crime.



attending for cocaine addiction. Oct 2001. pleads guilty to criminal possession of a controlled substance and sentenced to two to four years in prison.



Emiliam April 2001: pleads guilty to carrying a concealed weapon in Michigan Receives two years' probation. He is also ordered to undergo counselling and pay \$7,500 costs.



New York recording studio. 1995: sentenced to four and a half years in prison for sexual assault. 1998: shot dead in a suspected gargrelated drive-by shooting.



UK

Media man Charged with attempted murde before So Solid Crew had formed. He is later acquitted and soon after, sets up the collective (and business) that is to change his life.



So Solids Skat D Oct 2001: pleads guilty to inflicting grievous bodily harm on a 16-year-old girl who had to have her jaw reassembled. He's fined £1,500 and ordered to pay £3,500 compensation and £500 costs

actually do it." So Solid Crew admit to having been through some bad times – they don't big it up or deny it. When asked about the adverse press, Megaman is matter of fact. "Whatever publicity it is, it's good. We're not coming from a good background anyway, so at the end of the day, we're gonna get that. We're here to get out of the streets, man. Think I wanna be walking round here selling weed forever, walking round like a bad boy?"

If garage gurus Oxide and
Neutrino had been born with silver

spoons in their mouths, their must would be bland. In fact, it probab wouldn't even exist. For their fans it's a matter of recognising that a exciting musician is not necessar a perfect role model. And remembering that, in the same way hip hop changed American music, garage is also kicking mainstream pop where it hurts. Because frankly, anyone that knocks Atom Kitten off the top spot deserves more than a bottle of champagnet.

* Names have been changed

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Westlife - Untown Girl: 3608

Van Morrison - Brown Eyed Girl: 4935 Village People - YMCA: 4910

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12 rockin' ringtones

Last Christmas www.ringtonesgalore.co.uk.

I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day www.ringtonesgalore.co.uk.

Do They Know It's Christmas?

www.ringtonesgalore.co.uk.

Merry Christmas Everyone

www.ringtonesgalore.co.uk.

Frosty The Snowman www.ringtone.net.

Rudolf The Red-Nosed Reindeer

www.ringtone.net.

www.migtone.m

Silent Night www.ringtone.net.

Jingle Bells

www.ringtone.net.

Walking In The Air

www.ringtone.net.

Away In A Manger

www.2thumbswap.com.

Auld Lang Syne

www.2thumbswap.com.

Let It Snow

www.2thumbswap.com.

11 amazin' abbreviations

- BK Big kiss L2BF Learn to be funny ●
- PRW Parents are watching PS PlayStation

● IHTP I hate this place ● SOHF Sense of humour failure ● URAQT You're a cutie ● MRY XMS! Merry Christmas! ● A3 Any time, any place, anywhere ● TNOTVS There's nothing on TV so... ● RTI Read the instructions

10 wicked websites

www.uboot.com Anonymous texts and emails from your moby (free).

www.mypocketpal.com Reminder service for birthdays, jokes and quizzes (free).

www.23rdfloor.com Music, pix and games – the freshest-looking site about (free).

www.coverfrenzy.com Design your own phone cover with pix and drawings (£24.99).

www.saw-you.com Text a description of the totty you spied last night and if he's registered, they'll put you in contact (free).

www.darkerthanblue.com Hip hop and R&B news, gigs and competitions (£1.50 p/min).
www.crazymobile.co.uk Design your own logo

and graphics (£1.50 p/min).

www.xtremetext.com Fab 'Dissin Dynamo' and 'U R dumped' generator (free).

www.vizzavi.com News, horoscopes, music and sport (free).

www.cosmiccupid.com Sends texts to anyone you wanna flirt with! (free).

9 freaky fone facts

- Over 700 million texts are sent each month in the U
- Spod bods are inventing a mobile that smells who it rings, so each caller has a different scent.
- Two teens in Kansas were arrested when they sat of a phone and called the cops while planning a robben
- A college in Singapore texts exam results to students
- A quarter of Italians reckon that being deprived of their mobiles leads to sexual problems.
- Language experts say text messaging teaches people to be more creative with words.
- An Austrian jeweller is selling gold and diamond mobile phone covers... a snip at £41,000 each!
- In a recent mag survey, nine per cent of mobile users admitted dumping someone via text.
- 86 per cent of people have sent texts while they're at school/work/college.

8 lovely logos

Top eight logos according to ringtones.co.uk.

















MOBILE SPECIAL













awesome accessories

- Gr8 Cards A choice of ring tones, celeb voicemails and icons. Plus entry into the m8's club, so you'll get news, goss and competition info. (99p from most shops.)
- Know the score A scratch card to get the latest footie news. (www.btcellnet.net, £25.)
- Smart Ass Free trivia quiz. Two players go head to head every week with the chance to win a PlayStation. (www.23rdfloor.com.)
- Pen LED The end of this funky pen flashes when your moby is about to ring. Cool for school! (www.mobilephoneaccessories.com, £9.99).
- Sim Twin Two SIM cards in one handset means you can flick between networks and double your phone book.

(www.mobilephoneaccessories.com, £19.99).

- Flashing Stiletto A shoe-shaped phone holder that flashes when the phone rings. (www.gadgets.b3k.net, £13.99.)
- Touch Sensitive Covers Change colour depending who touches it and how sweaty their hands are! (reaxionfx.com, £14.99.)

6 blindin' books

TXT TLK (£3.99, Chicken House, written by J17's very own Chantelle Horton!).

Text Me (£3.99, Viking).

Txt Me Baby 1 More Time (£3.99, Carlton).

The Txt Files (£2.50, Spectrum).

Love Texting (£2.75, Apple). Total Texting (£2.75, Apple).

ways to pull

- Sneakily plant your moby in your crush's bag, then call it when you get home and suggest meeting up to get it back.
- Once you've blagged a date for the following week, ask all your mates to plague you with lots of texts

every ten minutes when you meet him - this'll show how in demand you are.

- Have the latest footie results sent to your lad's phone - he'll love ya forever!
- Tell your crush you love his Eminem ring tone and have got some rare. imported remixes stored on your hard drive - in your bedroom of course.
- Get jokes texted to you each week, so you can impress him with your neverending wit and wisdom.



3 lingo lessons

- 3G Phones Third-generation mobiles which are still in development; smaller and quicker than current models and provide internet access.
- EMS Enhanced messaging service. Allows phones to send and receive longer messages, graphics and even put text in bold and italics.
- GSM Global system for mobiles. Techy talk to describe the different signals that phones give out on different frequencies - which explains why you get a really cack reception sometimes and your mate (who's standing right next to you) doesn't.

bill busters

- Text for free from the internet instead of your phone. Just log onto one of the websites (see day 10) and away you go!
- Don't text just cos you're bored play a few games of Snake instead!

1 And a Christmas voicemail message to one and all! (sing to the tune of Jingle Bells)

"Jingle bells, as you can tell, I cannot take your call. So leave your name, I'll call you back, it's no trou-ble at aa-all!"

"Jingle bells, ain't Christmas hell? I'm stranded in my room. But I'll get over bore-dom by talk-ing on the pho-one!"









hopping doesn't have to be a ha when it comes to cash. Whether need easy access to your mon Christmas presents or want to for the January sales, you can open a U19 Cashcard Account with the Alliance & Leich you're aged 11 to 17. You'll get a Cashcarg gives you 24-hour access to your money for over 30,000 LINK Cash Machines. And you forget fretting about all the cash you've splan on other people, cos your account helps you save, earning interest on every penny you've n stashed. Everyday banking is free, you can like 24-hour telephone banking to check your bala and transactions, and you'll also have access your cash abroad*. If you're over 16, you will receive a Visa Electron debit card**, which you can use in shops displaying the Electron Symb

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Alliance & Leicester Prize Draw, Creative Solutions, Youth Dept, 2nd Floor, Endeavour House, 189 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8JG.

Include your name, address, date of birth and telephone number. Closing date for entries is 10 January 2002

No purchase necessary - see terms & conditions

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Diary of a CCTUS h

Grace decides it's better to give than receive...

THE STORY SO FAR

Jack and I don't bother to try and make stilted conversation any more. Usually he just says, "You alright, Grace?" and then attaches himself to my lips. I don't mind. Much. But I don't think all this meaningless snogging is going anywhere.

17 December

Mum wanted me to come straight home tonight to talk about Christmas. Like, what's to talk about? It's Christmas! But Jack and I walked home together and ended up in a clinch outside Smiths. I heard a furious hooting and then Mum was dragging me carwards. She says a) that she brought me up better than that and b) I'm grounded for a month. My life sucks!

18 December

I can't believe mum hasn't relented. I've seen Jesse and Poppy practically doing it in the kitchen when they were meant to be cooking and nobody said anything.

19 December

I take back all the mean things I've said about Poppy. She's managed to get the grounding revoked.

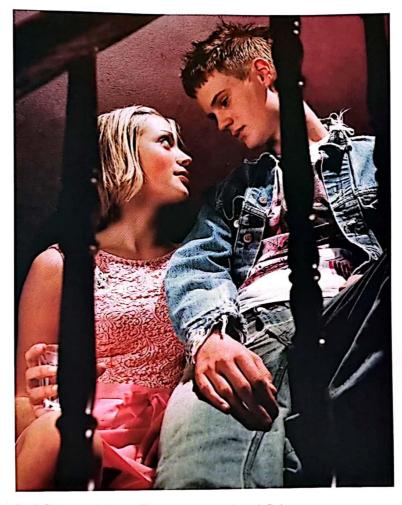
"It's Christmas, Mum," she yelled, when she came round to get her washing done. "You can't ground her. It's inhumane."

I was starting to have warm, fuzzy thoughts about Poppy until she added, "We're booked to play a gig on New Year's Eve. How am I meant to explain to the promoter that the guitarist has been sent to her room until January?"

Anyway, it worked. Although Jack is banned from coming within a mile of me and I have to wash up after Christmas lunch.

25 December

I've eaten my body weight in Quality Street at Edie's



'anti-Christmas' dinner. She reckoned that post-turkey, nothing decent ever happens and invited everyone round for Twister (oooh, I have bad memories of her Twister mat) and nu-metal charades.

It was weird. Edie and Dylan seem different somehow. I mean, they're still super-lovely but Edie is distant, like her mind's somewhere else and all Dylan's energy is focused on getting out of Manchester and being with Edie.

So it was meant to be anti-Christmas but Darby suddenly produced a sprig of mistletoe and, though Jack was visiting his grandparents in Chester, there seemed to be no shortage of boys who came at me with their lips puckered. Dylan gave me an uncle-style peck on the cheek, but there were Jesse's bandmates and Will and Rob from the record shop and Atsuko's brother. I realised that the way a boy kisses is as individual as the way he does his hair. There's no right or wrong way to do it. And you don't have to be absolutely crushing on a boy to enjoy the kissing. It was, like, a major revelation.

1 January

We were just finishing our set at midnight, which was cool 'cos last year I had to persuade mum to even let me stay up. All this silver glitter dropped down on us and Jesse leapt on stage to snog

WHO'S WHO

GRACE: 16, confused and writing a diary

JACK: 17, Grace's crush POPPY: 19, Grace's big sis ATSUKO & DARBY: fellow

band members

JESSE: Poppy's boyfriend
EDIE: Grace's friend and mentor

Poppy. I had to make do with hugging Darby and Edie who was doing a guest spot. After we finished I could see Jack waiting outside the dressing room for me, and I knew that he'd pull me into the alcove behind the stage so we could get gropey. But it seemed like a waste, you know? There were all these other boys with equally effective lips and hands.

I knew what to do, I mean, I'd seen Darby and Atsuko in action enough times. You just go over to a boy you like and smile mysteriously and ask if you can have a sip of his drink. The first boy told me to go and buy my own and the second one tried to stick his tongue down my throat within two seconds, but the third boy (who looked a bit like Dylan) smiled back and handed me his glass. I didn't know his name, I didn't need to. I sat on his lap and took baby sips of his drink while he traced circles on my back with the tip of his finger. Then I took little baby sips of his mouth and still he made patterns on my back. I felt tingly and light-headed. And when he drew back, we smiled at each other and I stood up and walked away. It was so easy.

As I was re-applying my lip gloss, Edie cornered me.

"I thought you and Jack were seeing each other," she said.

I shrugged. "Mum thinks he's a bad influence."

Edie raised her eyebrows at the idea that Jack could ever be a bad influence. "Who was that boy you were kissing?" she demanded.

I smiled dreamily. "Oh Edie, he was just a random boy. Haven't you ever wanted to just kiss someone and not have to do all that awkward talking stuff?"

Edie shook her head. "You can't go round kissing stray boys," she warned darkly. "Kisses always have consequences..."

TO BE CONTINUED ...



can get their mitts on it. Do you a) Make a promise to yourself to avoid all 'quality family

time' viewing. The Sound Of

b) Wearing a

customised T-shirt

splashed across

drowning out your

mum's Christmas

Marilyn Manson.

Move forward 2

the front and

carol CD with

with 'Bah Humbug!'

Tis the season to

be jolly. Are you

reindeer jumper Nan

listening to Wizzard's

Christmas Every Day.

Move forward 1

a) Sporting the

knitted you and

I Wish It Could

different colours to indicate their importance. The Sound Of Music gets yellow for must, must see...

Move forward 1

hols but you've got to pay for it yourself. Do you a) Get yourself a

in advance and do whatever it takes to guarantee you're on that piste.

Move forward 3 b) Get yourself a part-time job, skip the skiing and give the cash to charity. **Move forward 2**

festive decorations do you and your kid bro make to hang on the tree?

a) A selection of iced biscuits that look like Oxide and Neutrino. **Move forward 1**

b) Cute cotton wool snowmen. **Move forward 2**

volunteers you for a key role in the village festival, spoiling all your holiday plans in one fell swoop. Instead of

part-time job, ask

for Christmas cash

mates and gearing up for the Christmas sales, you'll be directing a cast of five year olds in the Nativity play. Your Christmas is hanging with your officially over.

BIG FAT CHRISTMAS QUIZ

night of the year Are you

a) Under a duvet, drinking hot chocolate and writing a letter to

Father Christmas. Move forward 1 b) Cuddled up on the sofa with your boyfriend watching a soppy rom-com. Move forward 2

time! You study the box and hope to get

a) The bracelet. It certainly didn't look plastic in the picture. Move forward 2

b) The novelty eraser. You've been here before and know not to expect too much. Move forward '

entered the Christmas week from hell. Your grandparents turn up and are on a mission to annoy you. After moaning on about youngsters

today, they force

you to eat your greens and talk through your fave tunes on MTV. And that's just a day's work. Lock yourself in your room and pretend that Christmas was never invented.

You drop the Christmas pudding on the I floor. Do you

(a) Keep quiet and serve it - what they don't know won't hurt them, will it? **Move forward 1**

Your aunt

Maude buys

b) Offer Christmas cake instead, complimenting the chef on a pudding that's too beautiful to eat. Move forward 2

You're off to sing carols with your local church but know that your money collecting trail will take you to your crush's 'hood. What do you do?

a) Get the congregation to pray that he doesn't

answer the door. Belting out Little Donkey anywhere else than the privacy of the I shower is I humiliation enough. Move forward 1 b) Stay at home reward everyone's hard work.

Move forward 2

preparing a buffet to 1

requests a Monopoly How do you outwit him?

I terry-towelling I tracksuit. Do you a) Smile sweetly 1 and customise it into a pair of sexy, retro hotpants and matching T-shirt. Move forward 2 Your

I you a brown

b) Immediately express your total horror at such a revolting gift. Then sacrifice all your future present opportunities by setting fire to it in front of your stunned aunt's eyes. I Move forward 1

You have the survival skills to ensure that you make it through alive. Overdosing on grub, being tortured with **Christmas tunes** and spending more time with your family than

is healthy are no

Ш

match for a girl like you. You're the proud owner of the brains, beauty and charm to guarantee that you have a truly special Christmas just remember to save some energy for New Year's Eve!

It's your turn to bake the mince ples this year. What do you choose to fill them with?

You head

off to the

shopping centre

dress when you

dressed as Santa

spy your dad

a) Mincemeat, of course, silly! Move forward 1 b) Minced beef, dummy. Move forward 2

b) Calmly. You cross I your fingers that the cellulite in the fairy's tutu doesn't belong to look for a party to your mother and walk on without looking back. Move forward 2

in the grotto. How do you react? c) Admirably. a) Badly, apparently, You demand that You can't remember Santa hands over cos you banged wads of cash as compensation for your head hard when you fainted. ruining your life. Move forward 1 Move forward 3

granddad championship but he always cheats. a) Slip some whisky in his tea. When he starts to nod off while you're considering your

of course), help vourself to a cheeky bank loan! **Move forward 2** b) Eat his Quality Street favourites. Without these for sustenance, he'll get bored and fall asleep before he's cleaned you out. Move forward 1

next move (slowly

Your mum asks you to plan a leftovers menu. You're so petrified of being force-fed turkey-June that you a) Put together

based meals until loads of food hampers for your nan and her mates,

muttering something about helping the elderly. Move forward 2 I b) Feed all the I turkey to your cat, I pretending that all the menu planning made you hungry for a massive

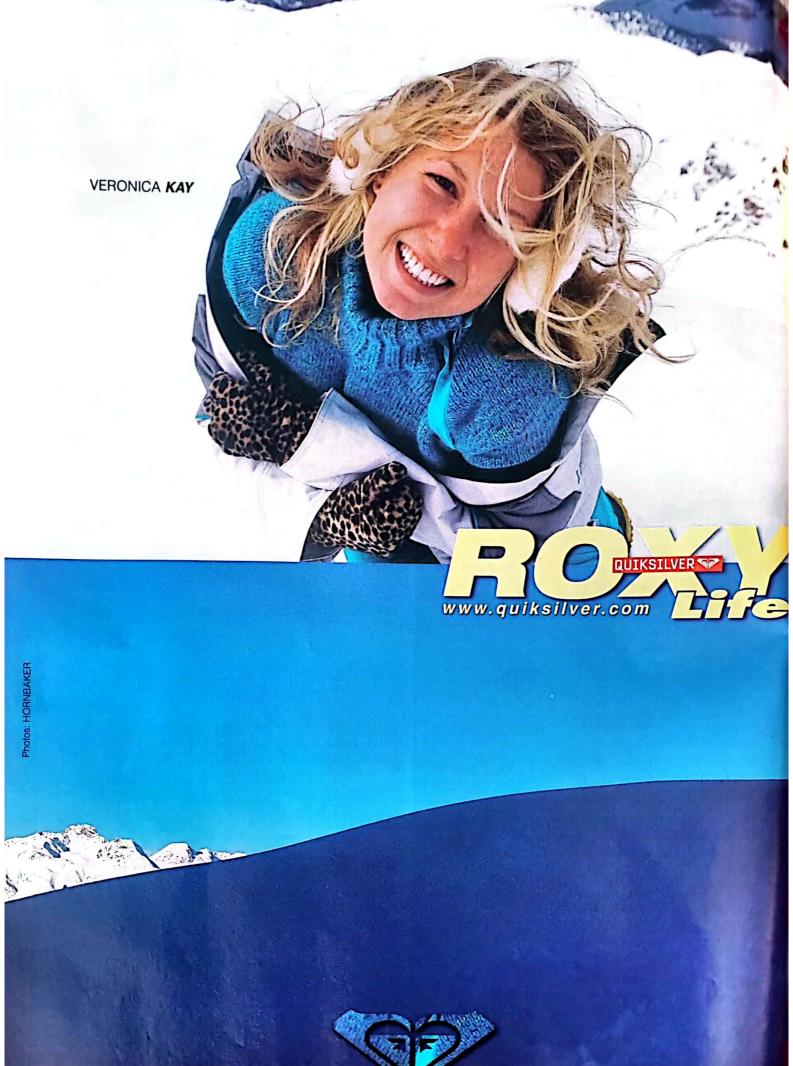
turkey sarnie.

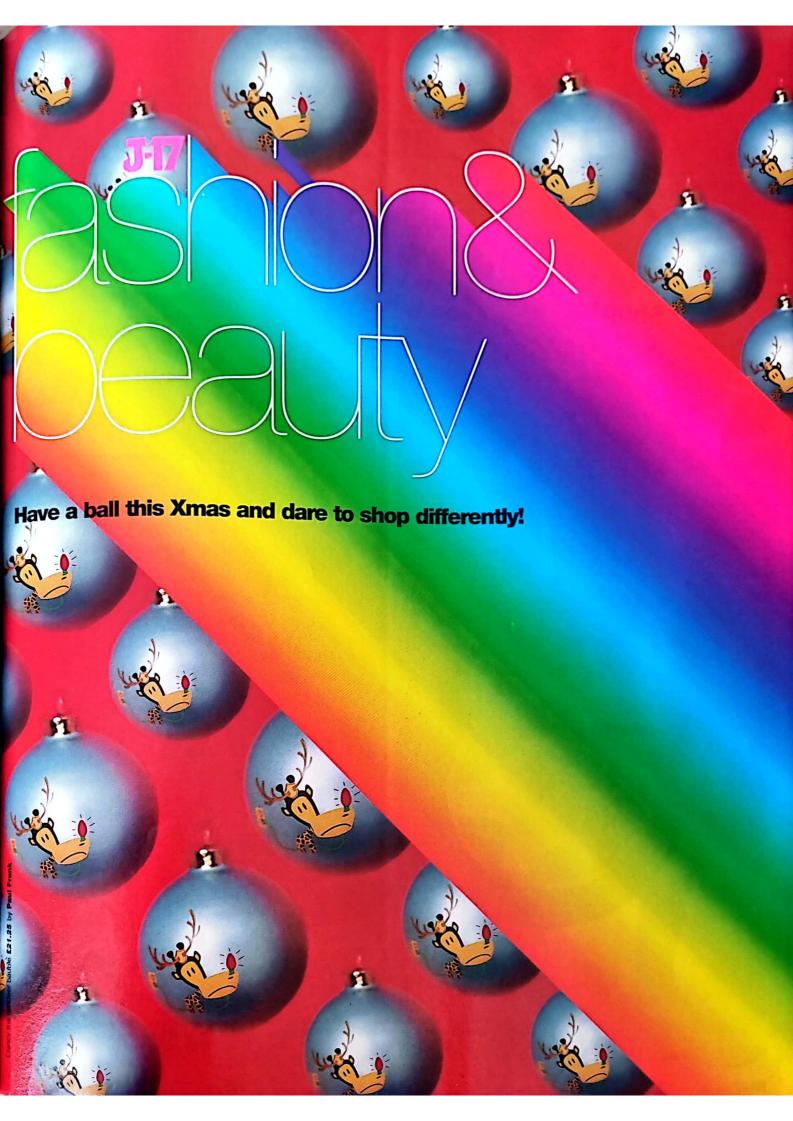
Move forward 1

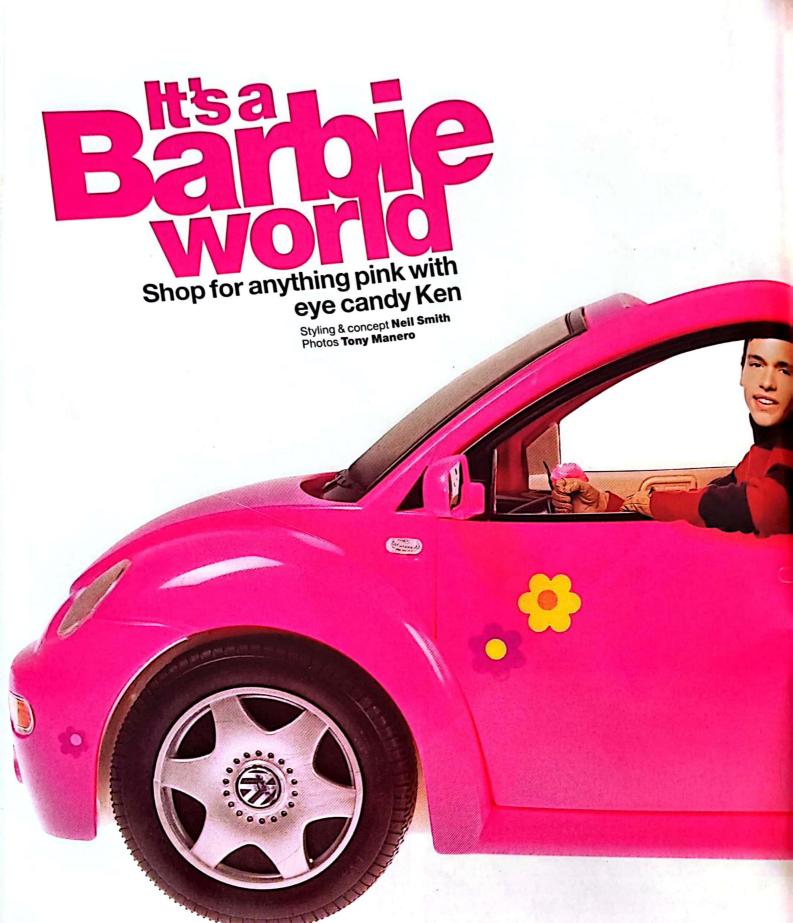
Take to your bed with an icky tummy. After more mince pies than Santa can stuff in his sack, turkey with all the trimmings. pudding in brandy sauce - washed

down with a few sneaky glasses of Asti Spumante you do your best impression of the chick in The Exorcist. Do the sensible thing and sleep it off for a few days.









J17 FASHION



J17 FASHION 80 J17









You pick your hair type, we pick the best shampoo...

1. Dry hair: Banana Nourishing Shampoo £2.50 from The **Body Shop**

2. Coloured hair: **Andrew Collinge** Treat Me Shampoo £4.50.

3. Greasy: Paul Mitchell Shampoo One Gentle Cleansing £4.99.

4. Sensitive and dry: Healthy Sexy Hair Soy Milk Shampoo £7.35 - as used by the girls in Sex And The City









The best: serum Despite the mindboggling choice of serums on the

shelves today, the oldest is still the best in our book Frizz Ease Hair Serum £5.95 from John Frieda will last for ages as you only need a tiny amount to tame frizzy locks.

The best:



The best: pick 'n' mix hair products Ever splashed a lot of cash on a

styling product that you tried once and hated? Good news is Charles Worthington Take Aways at Boots start at £1.50, so you can test without busting





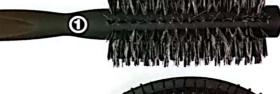
The best: hairdryer We rate the Remington Total Performance Chrome Retro 2000 £22.99. It comes

with a host of cool features to ensure you have a great hair day every day!

PP Stafford

poker

straight









The best: hairbrushes and combs

Did you know that using the right brush for your hair type could turn your hair from a frightmare into your crowning glory? Here are our four faves...

Curling Brush £6.95 from Charles Worthington at Boots. 2. In Fashion Straightening Brush £5.95 from Charles Worthington at Boots. 3. Three Row Comb £1.50 from **Denman** 4. Jungle Babe

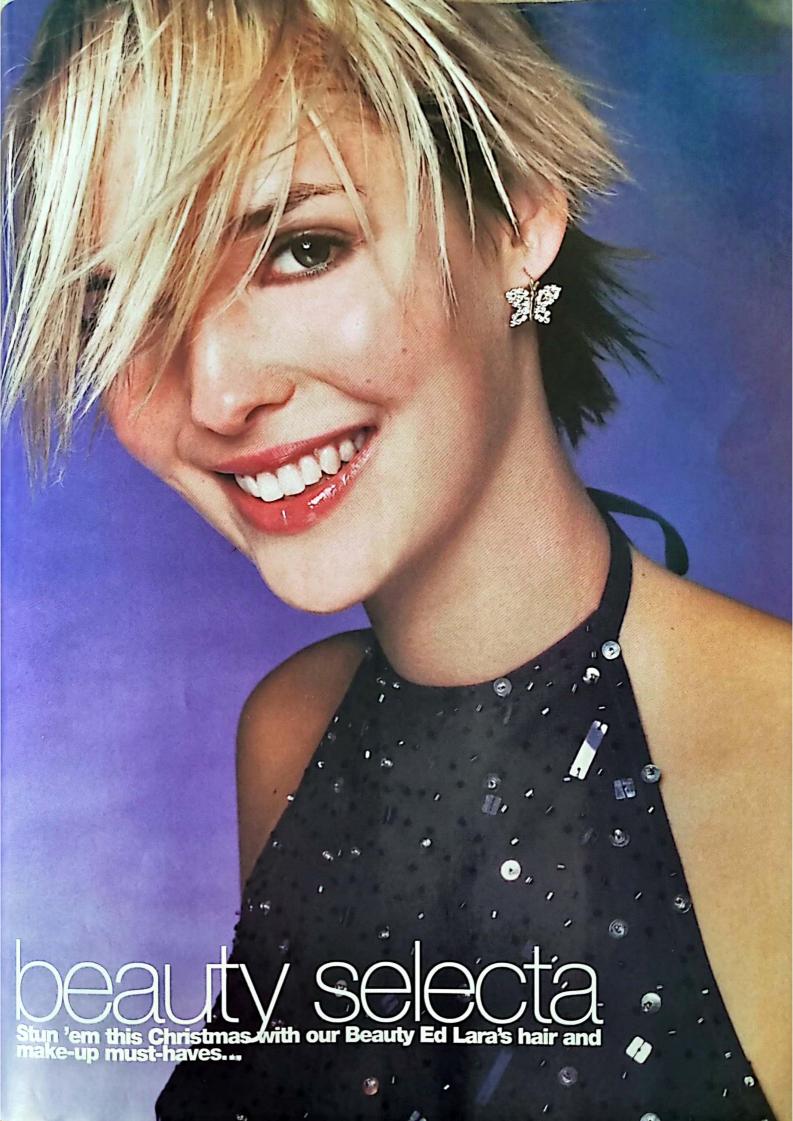
Handbag Brush £4.95 from

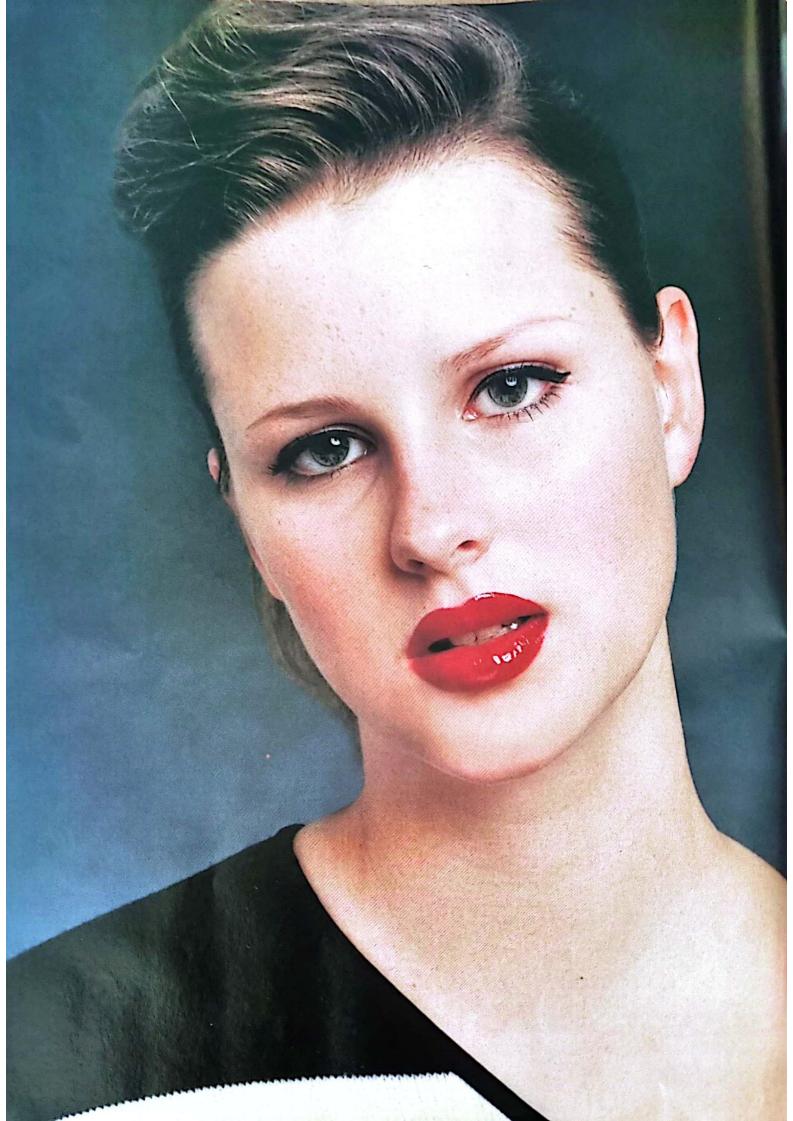
Denman

The best: straightener

Jen, Maddy and Gwyneth are well-known for being big fans of sleek, poker-straight locks and if this is your current fave look, you'll be well impressed with this new straightener. It not only makes your hair super-smooth, it also comes with a heart stencil, which, when heated, creates funky shapes in your locks. The @itude Lasting Impression Straightener & Stencil £14.99 from Nicky Clarke is available at Argos. To finish off, add a dab of Lee Stafford Poker Straight Glistening Straightening Balm £4.99 from Boots.









recurrent a pool like Kiyle's) get yourself down to **Bloom** and rab one of their Lip Classe \$7.95 each. Or for some lip-licking for, try these layoured Lip Cooklats (below) £1.29 each from **Sleek.** Choose from probable (our laye), Mint Julep and Cherry Fizz.









The best: lip gadget

Lip Adapter Matt & Brilliant £7.50 from Colourings at The Body Shop is a wicked idea. This magic wand comes with two sides: one is a matt lip gloss and the other is a super-shiny bubblegum gloss. Two for the price of one!





The best: long-lasting lippy

We're not big fans of long-lasting lippy as it tends to dry your lips out, but if your pout just has to go the distance, check out Lipfinity £9.99 from Max Factor. Apply the colour and wait for it to dry, then add the shiny top coat for extra moisture. (Remove using baby oil or Vaseline.)

The best:

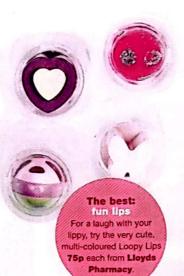
Mac Spice lip liner £9
wins our top lip liner award.
The shade goes with any
colour of lippy and is loved a
by supermodels and
celebs alike.

The best: lippies

Don't get your lips round anything less...

- 1. Daring Ultimate Lipstick £6.80 from No7 rich colours with real staying power.
- staying power.

 2. Cerise Pour Exquises Rouge A
 Levres £6.75 from Bourjols there
 are tons of exciting shades and they
 smell just like rose petals.
- 3. Mercury Glitter Stick £1.99 from Spectacular – if you want really glittery lips, they do the cheapest and best-looking around.
- 4. New York Apple Lipstick £11 from Mac not only is this make-up brand bang up-to-date with all the trends, but lipsticks stay put.
- SPF Natural Lip Treat £5.50 from Colourings at The Body Shop – really moisturising and contains SPF for protection from sun damage.
- 6. 17 True Moisture Crème lipstick £1.99 from Collection 2000 this lippy doesn't dry out your mouth and it's a bargain price.
- 7. Nirvana Whisper Light Lipstick £14.50 from Chanel as swanky lippies go, this one's right up there. 8. 174 Lipstick £1.29 from Miss Sporty @ Superdrug we love all their shades and we love the price even more.



The best: for sore lips

We had a little vote round the fashion and beauty department and **Carmex** £2.25 was voted the top lip balm. This little wonder sorts out chapped lips in an instant, leaving

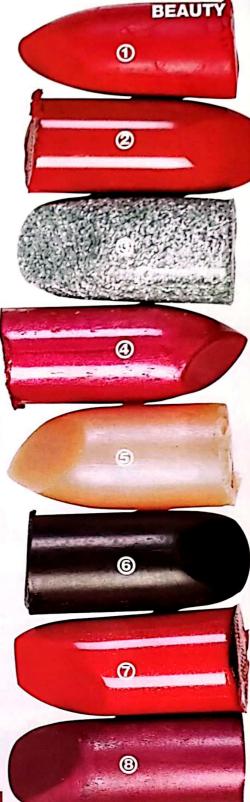
CARMEX

tingly.

Vaseline
carme a
close
second – and

it's also fab on eyebrows and lashes.





The best: lip tips

- If your lips are a bit flaky, apply a smudge of Vaseline to a soft, old toothbrush and gently brush on to remove licky bits.
- Wearing red lippy will help make discoloured teeth look whiter.
- 3. Add a dot of silver or gold shimmery shadow to the centre of your bottom lip to make them look fuller.
- 4. Don't get caught out with lippy on your teeth stick your little finger in your mouth, form an 'O' and pull your finger out. Any extra
- lippy will stick to your finger, not your teeth.

 5. When you're applying face powder, lightly dust your lips too. This'll help your lippy to last longer after you've applied it.



The secret to great slap is a great set of brushes. Here are the seven must-haves...

1. Powder brush - essential for dusting loose powder over your lids. Ensures a good base for applying your eyeshadow. £16.50 Mister Mascara

2. Eyeshadow brush - a smaller brush which allows greater precision when applying colour. £1.99 H&M

3. Large shadow brush – this is your everyday sweep-your-eyeshadow-on brush. £13.50 Mister Mascara

4. Angle brush – good for getting into all those creases. £8.50 Mister Mascara

5. Smudger - if you don't like hard lines around your eyes, use your smudger to soften your shadow. £4 Mister Mascara 6. Eyebrow comb and brush - keeps unruly brows groomed. 99p H&M

7. Eyeliner brush - great for drawing accurate lines with liquid eyeliner. £4 Mister Mascara













FC:SKIN

The best: eye make-up remover

FC: Skin Eye Make-Up Remover £7.95 from French Connection is fragrance free and gets rid of all types of make-up with one swipe. Best of the rest: Bi-Facil £14.50 from Lancôme; Eye Make Up Remover 99p from Superdrug.

The best: evelash curier

it's a well-known fact that lashes curl up better with heat. so we've searched out the ultimate Heat Assisted Eyelash Curier £14.99 from Carmen. Think flashy lashes! For stockists, ring 0161 947 3170.











The best: are sheriows

Our top four best eyeshadows - ever

- value for money.

 2. Gris Paillettes Pastel Lumière £5.40 from Bourjoi
 Sieck packaging and it even comes with a mini orust
 Fantastic rich colours that last for ages.

 3. Galactic Blue Crèa Greme £4.69 from L'Oréal si
 dissay, nomicous.
- glassy, gorgeous.

 4. Celebration SpecialEyes Mono Eyeshadov F2.4s from Rimmel. Good value and always up to date wintest-have colours.

PYR 1177 YE



The best: eye shimmers All that glitters is ... gold, silver, blue, pink - any shade you fancy with Barn M Dazzle Dusts £3.95 each. Perfect for popping in your handbag.

The best: masearas

Mascara is fab for plumping up even the spindliest of eyelashes. We pick four of our faves...

- Eyeko's Black Mascara £9.95 from eyeboutty.com. The Rylle Minoque of mascara It comes in small, shiny packaging and is easily squeezable. The end result is glossy and gorgeous.

 2. Great Lash Mascara £4,49 from
- 2. Great Cash was cald 14.45 from Maybelline Supermodels and celebs swear by this and they use so much of the stuff, they can't all be wrong!

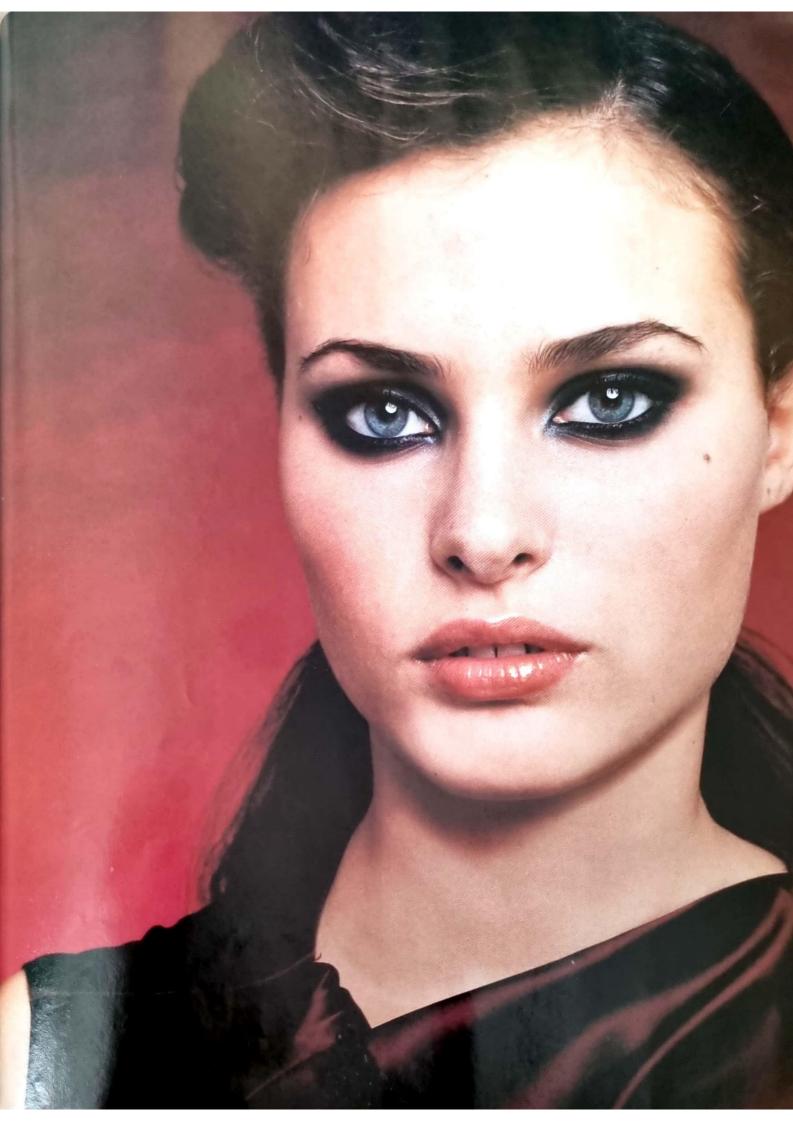
 3. Le Grand Ourl £6.99 from L'Oréal. Lifts
- your lashes and curls 'em up for a lush look. The brush is a clump-free zone, too.
- 4. 2000 Calorie Dramatic Look Mascara 27 from Max Paretor As recommended by J17 reader, Briony. Plumps up your lashes in one

The best: eye cream

This swanky Paint £12 from Mac gives a whole new meaning to art you only need a tiny squirt and voila! Your eyes are a true masterpiece!









HOTTANOO

Hit the shops for glitzy, glamorous party gear. Your spot under the mistletoe is guaranteed

Photos Karinn Styling Speranza









How can I control of the moment?

Guys are all very well. But blimey do they get carried away.

Mention Euro 2000 and they're likely to cry. Take them to a club and they'll think the Sun Shines out of your you-know-where. And if you snog them, well, who knows what will happen?

You, that's who.

Because you should only go further if you really want to

If you're not ready for sexthat's your own decision, and even that horny boyfriend of yours will respect you for your maturity if he's got his head screwed on. In fact if he loves you, he'll want to wan't il you're ready.

Chances are, most of your friends are waiting too (despite what they may claim), as the majority of girls don't have sex until they are at least seventeen. Some wait considerably longen

So if you're not Sure, tell him so, lovingly but firmly.

A 'No' now will make the 'Yes, yes, yes!' much better when the time comes.

Are you thinking about it enough?

If you're under 18 and need advice about Sex or contraception, phone Sexwise on 0800 28 29 30 or visit us at www.ruthinking.co.uk The call is free and confidential. Textphone (for people with hearing impairments) 0800 328 1651.

Don't let your problems get you down - drop a line to one of J17's experts...

TOP SECRET DO NOT ENTER TO NOT



Boystuff

Nick Fisher has been an agony uncle for over ten years, working on J17, radio and TV. He's written six books on teen issues

Age gap dilemma

I'm 17 and I've been seeing this guy who's 30 for a while. When it's just the two of us we have a great time together. But when his mates are around he seems embarrassed by me. He sometimes tells me I'm too young and we should call it a day, but then he tells me he loves me when we have sex. Help.

Atomic Kitten fan

He is embarrassed by you. Why? Because he's 13 years older than you! Sure, everything seems to make sense when he's in bed with you - alone. But when he's out in the real world. the stark reality of your massive age gap comes crashing home. He knows it's not right. That's why he panics and pulls an 'Oh, you're too young' number. Truth is, you're never going to be secure in this relationship because he's never going to be sure about it. You can end it now and save yourself some pain later. Or ride it out to the bitter end. And trust me - the end will be sad and bitter.

Dancing disaster

I know it shouldn't be a big deal but I'm so embarrassed by my boyfriend's dancing – he looks like a *Thunderbird* puppet he's so stiff. I couldn't believe it the first time we went to a club together – he was so bad I was tempted to finish with him. We get on so well in every other way, but my mates all really laugh at him and I now avoid going clubbing with him.

Ricky Martin fan

Well he ain't gonna turn into Mr Slick-Hips overnight, that's for sure. But just because he dances like Scott Tracy now, doesn't mean he always will. Especially not if you give him a few gentle pointers. Should the fact that his dancing makes your mates laugh relegate him to the list of potential dumpees?

Seems a bit cruel to me. If you've got so many other things you enjoy doing together, it would be senseless to scrap him for being a bit foot-faulty on the dance floor. A good man is hard to find. A good man who can also dance is practically a fantasy.

Let's hear it from the boys SHE'S TOO BIG

There's this girl in my year who's made it obvious she fancies me and from what I've seen she's got a nice personality. I must be the only guy to have this problem, but I don't want to go out with her because her boobs are too big. I like girls with much smaller breasts. My mates say I'm just being a chicken and making excuses. Should I go out with her and hope I can get more enthusiastic about her breasts as time goes on?

EastEnders fan (17)

Hey, don't force yourself! If her chest is such a big obstacle to overcome, then do her a favour and save her the heartache. And let's be practical about this, if the size, shape or prominence of her breasts is such a big deal to you, then you aren't really considering her as a person. All in all, I'd say she'd be better off without you making her life. confidence and reputation a misery. I mean, how would you feel if she was writing to me deliberating about whether or not she should go out with you based on the inadequate size of your todger?

Spill it, boys If you were a girl for just one day, what would you do?



"I'd sit in the bath looking at my body, then I'd have a slumber party in the evening with my friends. They're the two things I wish I could do with girls, but girls will never let me!" Paolo Fanucci. 15



"I'd have a girlie night out with all the girls in my year and get them to give me tips on how they like boys to treat them. Then I'd use the tips the next day to pull them." Tom Esam, 15



"If I was a girl it'd be really good fun to flirt with all the desperate blokes, and get presents off them! I would definitely use my femininity to my advantage – that's what girls always do to us." Charlie Lovell, 14

J17 Brook advice lines

advice lines
Cals are charged at the normal rate)
Missed a period?

020 7617 8005 Emergency (after sex) contraception 020 7617 8006

Information on abortion 020 7617 8007

Information on contraception 020 7617 8008

Are you ready for sex? 020 7617 8009 The condom line

020 7617 8019 Visiting a Report Co

Visiting a Brook Centre 020 7617 8010

Brook Centre Freephone 0800 0185 023





The FPA's contraception helpline en 9am to 7pm, Mon-Fril 0845 310 1334

Other useful numbers

Calls charged at the normal rate unless they start 0800, in which case they're free

National AIDS Helpline 0800 567 123

Lesbian and Gay Switchboard 020 7837 7324

Rape Crisis 020 7837 1600

Sexwise 0800 28 29 30 **Eating Disorders Association** 01603 765 050 (for 18s and under) 01603 621 414 (general number)

J17 Tampax helplines

Coping with your first period 020 7617 8045 Periods - the facts 020 7617 8046 Painful periods 020 7617 8048

Toxic shock syndrome 020 7617 8049

Sex and bodies

TOP SECRET: DO NOT ENTER

Dr Jo Tully is a paediatrician with years of experience of teen health problems. Felicity Young is an experienced nurse practitioner who works in sexual health and family planning services for young people

Painful pee

I've been having sex with my boyfriend for about two months and we always use protection. Lately I have felt a slight burning sensation when I go to the toilet. My vagina isn't sore or itchy, so I don't think it's an STI. What is it? Deftones fan (15)

Jo: You say you're using protection, but only condoms will protect you against sexually transmitted infections (STIs). If you are just taking the Pill then you are at risk of catching an STI - one of the symptoms of which can be this burning sensation when you pee. If you're not sure, get it checked out by your GP or local family planning clinic.

However, it's more likely that you've got cystitis - when your bladder and urethra (the passage through which urine passes) becomes infected. This is very common, especially in sexually active women, but it is not an STI. It happens because the vagina is very close to the urethra, so bacteria can easily pass from one to the other, especially during sex.

You can buy over-the-counter treatments from any chemist (your GP can recommend one), although in some cases you may need a course of antibiotics to get rid of the infection. On the whole, drinking cranberry juice or plenty of water should shift it.

Stretched skin

I've got really unsightly stretch marks on my thighs, hips and arms. I'm a size 12 and not overweight. My doctor suggested some creams, but they haven't

worked. Why have I got them? Please help.

Desperate (17), Wiltshire

Jo: Stretch marks are produced during periods of rapid growth, for example during puberty. They are most commonly found on the bottom, thighs, stomach and breasts, and although they are often reddish when they first appear, they will fade over time to become faint silvery lines that are barely visible. They are extremely common and most women will be able to find one or two somewhere on their body.

The bad news is that there's very little you can do about them. I'm afraid that creams and lotions will not get rid of them. How about trying to cover them up with some fake tan - that way you get to wear those skimpy clothes and look fantastic!

Late starter

I'm really worried because I'm 15 and I haven't started my periods yet. Am I normal or is there something wrong with me?

Worried, Cambridge

Felicity: The age at which you start your period will depend on several factors, including how much you weigh, how well you eat, what exercise you do and at what age other women in your family started their periods.

It is highly unlikely there is anything wrong with you. However, if you find your periods haven't started within the next year or two, then it may be worth discussing with your GP, who can arrange blood tests to check your hormone levels and carry out other investigations.

Reader rehab How can I finish it?

I want to end it with my boyfriend of nine months. I still want to be his friend. How can I stop seeing him without hurting him too much

Jodie (15), London

I'm sure that if you explain to him that your friendship means so much to you, even though you don't want to date him any more he will understand.

Rebecca (15), London

You answer: I want to say yes

My mate's boyfriend has asked me out. I've known this girl for a long time but we're not best mates. He says they're going to split up soon I really like him - should I see him? Kayleigh (15), Sunderland Send your words of wisdom about the above problem to Reader Rehab at the usual J17 address.



/in win win!!!

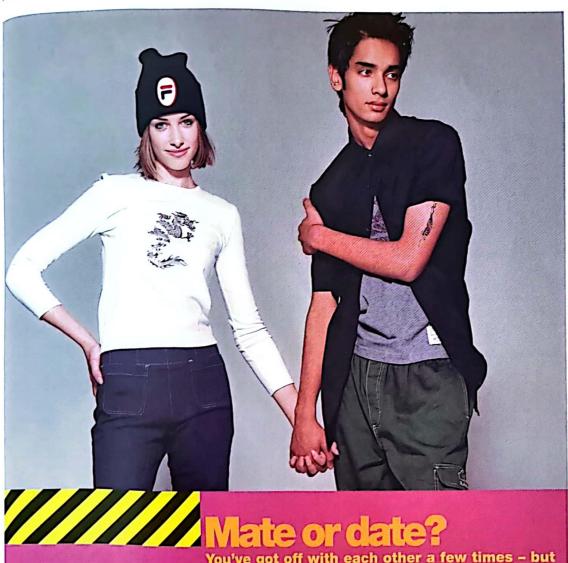
www.ruthinking.co.uk, the website for free and confidential advice on sex relationships and contraception, has got five goody bags up for grabs. Each one includes a Polaroid I-Zone camera filofax, Claire's Accessories goodies Tommy Hilfiger Body Lotion and more To win just call 09013 803 770°.

*Calls cost approx 25p. Please ask permisithe person who pays the phone bill. Or poname and address on a postcard and sent at the usual address by 10 January 2002.



"I have plenty of imperfections but I'm not going to say what they are. The trick is not to tell anyone, because you can guarantee that nobody else has noticed."





You've got off with each other a few times - but are you a hot item or is it just a casual fling?

Answer Yes or No to the following scenarios

- he text you twice a day? Does he hold your hand, even
- when his mates are around? Tarty Tina's wearing a seethrough top - does he join the
- chorus of 'phwoars' in front of you? His pal's having a party - is it a given that you're going?
- You're off school with flu does You're having a nightmare with your mates - do you tell him all about it?
 - He's acting like a fool do you give him hell?
 - Your parents want to meet him
 - do you invite him over?
 - It's Christmas day do you expect a pressie from him?

Now, count up your yes answers... 0-3 Sony but you're not his girlfriend. That's not to say you never will be, but you've a way to go before you're official. 4-6 This has potential. Try nudging him in the right direction and you may well be promoted to other-half status. 6-8 Hell, why are you even doing this quiz? He's crazy 'bout you, so stop messing around and get stuck in with your boyfriend!

J17 promotion **TAMPAX**

I'm sure it will get lost

I am 14 and I've just started my periods. I'd love to try Tampax tampons, but I don't know how far to insert one. I'm scared that if the tampon went in too high it would get lost inside me and then I would never get it out. How high up should it go? Rachel, Herts

This is a really common concern, but you shouldn't worry about it. A tampon will safely stay inside the vagina because there is nowhere else for it to go - the opening of the cervix is far too tiny, it's about the size of a pinhead. Slide a tampon in as far as it will comfortably go. If it isn't inserted high enough, the muscles at the opening of the vagina can clench awkwardly around the tampon, causing discomfort. But positioned correctly you won't even know it's there.

A good tampon to start using is the Tampax Mini Applicator tampon. These tampons are really comfortable to wear and give you superior internal protection. They have a slender, smooth cardboard applicator that has been specially designed to help you guide the tampon into exactly the right place. And remember - all tampons have a removal cord so all it takes is a gentle pull on the string to ease it out. Sorted!

For further information check out www.beinggirl.co.uk. For a free Tampax Mini Sample, please write to: J17/Tampax Offer, Code J020TX, Dept 412, PO Box 10. Diss, Norfolk IP98 1SP.



"I climbed the ladder of success, I look down and there's no-one there but Where are my friends?"

TO SECRET DO NOT ENTER A MEDICAL DE LA CONTRACTION DEL CONTRACTION DE LA CONTRACTION



Friends and family

Melissa Roske is a ChildLine-trained counsellor who's been writing articles on relationships and sexual health for over ten years

Mum's too strict

I'm 17 and my mother is painfully strict with me. I'm not allowed to do anything, and if I ask her to let me, she screams at me until I cry. What hurts the most is that she expects me to respect her, yet she has no respect for me.

Miserable, Devon

I'm sorry you're having such a hard time with your mum. From her point of view she probably thinks that you expect too much freedom, at too young an age. Think about it: at 17, it's likely that she wasn't given much freedom by her own mum. That's why she doesn't know how to give you the space you need, or how to treat you like an equal. This is very frustrating.

If you can, sit down with your mum – preferably at a time when you're not at odds with each other – and tell her exactly what you told me. It might also help if you demonstrate how mature and responsible you are (helping out around the house is sure to win serious points). Once she sees how anxious you are to pitch in perhaps she'll slacken her tight hold on you. Good luck!

They know I'm bi

A few weeks ago I told some of my friends that I thought I was bisexual. I was drunk at the time and didn't realise what I was saying. My mates are now acting weird around me. It's really getting me down, and I'm confused about my feelings.

Unsure Angelina Jolie fan (15)

Under different circumstances, confiding in your friends might have been no big deal. The problem is, you chose a less-than-ideal moment to let it all

hang out. That's why your pals are acting so weird; they don't know how to react.

The thing is, what's done is done. Let the dust settle and then, if you want, take your friends to one side and have a quiet chat with them. It's perfectly normal to feel confused about your sexuality – after all, at 15 you're still developing – so don't put any unnecessary pressure on yourself. And next time, be careful what you tell your mates when you're drunk.

I want to find my dad

I'm 16 and I've never met my dad. He doesn't even know I exist. I want to know him so badly, but my mum just says: "We've done fine without a man for this long, why do we need one now?" She doesn't understand how I feel. Please help.

Anon

There might be good reasons why your mum isn't forthcoming about your dad. She could be trying to protect you from more pain, plus there may be legal and safety issues concerned. But that doesn't make your desire to want to know your father any less important. Although you can't force your mum to open up, you can explain how much this means to you. If she isn't able or willing to help, perhaps she can direct you to another relative who can. If nothing turns up, at the age of 18 you might consider taking further action, when you are legally entitled to examine your birth certificate and public records on your own. Meantime, remain optimistic but realistic.

Useful numbers

Calls charged at the normal rate unless they start 0800, in which case they're free

Al-Anon
For thinds/tamily of alcoholics
or Alateen
For anyone over 12 suffering from alcohol problems
020 7403 0888

Anti-Bullying Campaign 020 7378 1446

Careline Information and advice on any subject 020 8514 1177

ChildLine 0800 1111

Youth 2 Youth 020 8896 3675

Get Connected
Will find the best place in the UK that can
help, whatever the problem. (1pm to 11pm)
0808 808 4994

National Drugs Helpline 0800 77 66 00

The Samaritans
Open 24 hours to anyone feeling desperate
0345 90 90 90



kick-start your confidence."

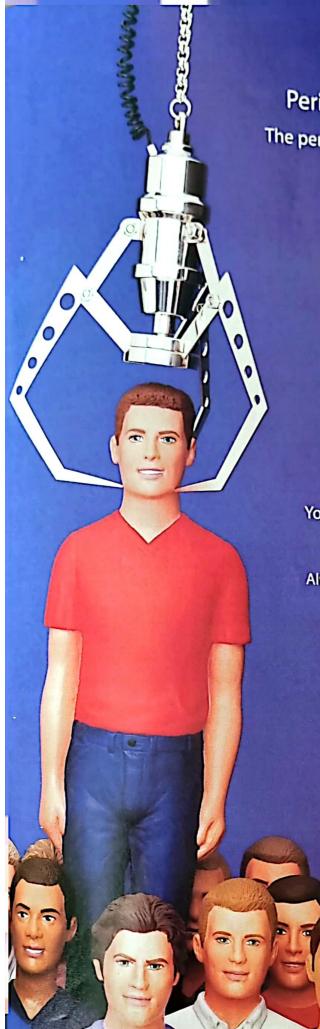
Dress for comfort. There's no point donning the sassiest little number in Topshop if you feel like a muppet in it. "Feeling comfortable – physically and mentally – will relax you," says Gladeana.

Walk the walk. "Slouching around with a downcast look gives the impression you're bored, nervous, or really unapproachable." says Gladeana. "Stand tall and smile to ooze confidence."

■ Talk the talk. Don't run yourself down. Accept compliments gracefully. If you sound confident, other people will pick up on it.

Don't do drunk. Beer breath and slurred words are NOT the sort of impact you want to make... *Confidence Works by Gladeana McMahon, £7.99, Sheldon Press.

Photo Big Pictures Party Tricks An



Periods.

The perfect time to

pick your perfect bloke.

No really.

Your hormones make you feel more attracted to the caring, sensitive types.

Perfect flirting conditions.

You don't even have to worry about your protection being a distraction.

Always Ultra have a special one-way top sheet for extra dry, comfortable, no-distractions protection.

Perfect for when there's

important man-hunting to be done.



your body's language.



learn more about your body's language at www.beinggirl.co.uk



McVev's way

Dom's words of wisdom on moving onwards and upwards! E-mail him at dom@mcveysway.com

TOP SECRET, DO NOT ENTER

ver get that feeling, after spending loadsa cash, that you should have got more for your money? When your parents buy a new car they get perks, like a free stereo and insurance, but we don't even get a smile from the shop assistant when we part with our pounds! Or wouldn't it be good if, after buying something, you then got a free club membership and received news and discounts in the future? I reckon this would make us feel a lot happier about parting with our readies.

At the end of the day, it all boils down to customer relations. The business world is all about wining and dining, so why isn't the consumer world? We'd all live in a happier place if customer relations were stronger. My advice is, be good to your friends and treat them like a business. The better you do business, the better you do friends! And if any companies want to tell me about their loyalty and smile guarantee, I'm listening...

Job hunting

I want to be a teacher when I'm older but everyone tells me I have to train for years. Is it worth it?

Ellen (14) Cornwall

First off, you need good GCSEs and then you'll need to go to uni. You can either do a BEd course if you know you definitely want to be a teacher (this takes four years), or do a vocational degree in say, History, then a one-year PGCE course and become a History teacher (four years in total, too). After you've been in your first job for a year, and passed all the assessments, you're finally awarded qualified teacher status (QTS). As to whether it's worth it or not, that's something only you can decide. It's great job satisfaction, despite the pay. Why not ask your teacher's opinion?

So you want to be a Beauty Therapist

Swotting up

You need at least three GCSEs (including biology) and an NVQ or BTEC in Beauty Therapy. Or you could do a modern apprenticeship after leaving school and get paid while you train

Cash count

£130-£200 a week, unless you're self-employed, then you can charge what you want!

Uppers

Free access to every beauty product under the sun.

Downers

Smelly feet, sweaty people and you're standing up all day, every day.

Any work out there?

You'll find beauty salons in hairdressers, department stores, gyms, even cruise ships, so therapists are always in demand.

■ Dress code?

Personal appearance counts for a lot so you'll have to make sure you're fairly fit and healthy and look after your complexion.

■ Glam rating 6/10

The job's not all about makeovers. You'll also be giving facials, wax treatments, manicures and pedicures so you can't get grossed out by veruccas!

Find out more from:
Confederation of International
Beauty Therapy and
Cosmetology (CIBTAC), Babtac
House, 70 Eastgate street,
Gloucester GL1 1QN (01452
421114).

Know the score!Waiter, waiter, there's a fly in my soup...

Ever wondered what the deal is when you're not happy with your pizza? It's the same as buying a CD and discovering it was scratched you take it back. It's a product and if you're not happy with it for any reason, you have the right to request a refund. But if you're not happy with the pizza because it's cold or there's a hair in it, you should tell the health and safety standards department at your local council cos the restaurant may be breaking the law. For more info visit http://www.ofthelp.co.uk. PS: I cook a great spaghetti bolognaise and ain't ever been asked for a refund!



Traditional 'male' jobs still pay about 30 per cent more than traditionally 'female' jobs, even though two out of three workers beginning work between 2001 and 2005 will be women.









HO.F Babe







30410







iio / Rapture

















61287















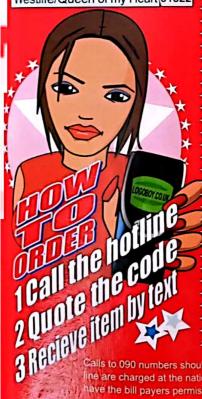






Robbie / Something Stupid	61385
S Club 7 / Have you ever?	61369
Kate Winslet / What If?	61416
Geri Halliwell / Calling	61398
Blue / If you come back	61375
Steps/Words are not enough	61409
N* Sync / Gone	61367

Westlife/Queen of my Heart 61322



Wyclef / Wish you were here	61384
All Star lineup / Whats Goin on?	61412
Liberty / Thinking it over	61205
Liberty / Doin it	61400
Five / Closer to me	61280
Dan. Bednfld'/Gotta get thru this	61286
Sophie Ellis /Murder the Dancef.	61422
Mis-Teeq / My one night stand	61231
The Ones / Flawless	61289
Supermen Lovers / Starlight	61146
Craig David / Fill me in	60169
Eve / Let me blow your mind	61064
Alien Ant Farm / Smooth Criminal	61194
Bob the Builder / Mambo no5	60047
Nelly Futardo/Turn out the light	61091
Bell & Spurling/Sven,sven,sven	61265
Pink,Mya / Lady Marmalade	61004
Janet Jksn / Son of a Gun	61399
Eve / Let me blow your mind	61064
Nelly Futardo / Im like a bird	60142
Destinys Child / Emotion	61264
Afroman/Because I got high	61223
D 12 / Purple Hills	61043
D 12 / Fight Music	61272
Limp Biskit / Faith	61311
Wyclef / Perfect Gentleman	61050
Five / Rock the Party	61428
Five / Let's Dance	61078
Shaggy / Angel	60185
Shaggy / It wasn't me	60076
Shaggy / Hope	61420
Steps / Tragedy	61011
Kylie/Cant get u outa my head	61175
Samantha Mumba / Lately	61431

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Blu Cantral / Hit 'em up style	61285
Uncle Kracker / Follow me	61211
Britney Spears / I'm a slave	61225
U2 / Walk On	61372
Dreem Team / Ain't Enough	61273
Emma Bunton / Were not gona sleep	61425
Steps / Chain Reaction	61193
Cher /Musics no good without U	61315
Basemt Jaxx / Where's ur head at	61324
Riva / Who do you love now?	61381
Alicia Keys / Fallin	61262
Usher / You got it bad	61236
Usher / You remind me	61016
The Streets/Has it come to this	61235
Pied Piper/Do you really like it	61005
Wideboys / Sambuca	61373
Atomic Kitten / You Are	61374
Atomic Kitten / Eternal Flame	61053
Atomic Kitten / Whole Again	60108
Missy Elliot / One minute man	61067
Missy Elliot / Get your Freak on	60179
Destinys Child / Survivor	60117
Destinys Child / Bootylicious	61037
Gorillaz / Rock da House	61199
Gorillaz / Clint Eastwood	60128
Artful Dodger, Mel Blatt/ 24,7	61171
Lisa 'lefteye' / Block Party	61241
Jean J.Smoothie / 2 people	61214
Victoria Bkm/Not an innocent gal	61170
Blue / All Rise	61015
Blue / Too Close	61172
O Town / We fit together	61243
O Town / All or Nothing	61144
N*Sync / POP	61068
West Life / Uptown Girl	60162

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DJ Otzi / Hey Baby	01220
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DDV / Daniel	64424

PPK / Resurection	61424
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Shaggy / Dance + Shout	61052
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Michael Jackson / Cry	61417
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Baba Sparxx / Ugly 61377

City High / What would you do 61198

So Solid Crew/They dont know 61258 CREDITCARD LINE ()87() CUSTOMER CARE

Calls to 090 numbers should last no longer than 3 mins & are charged at £1.00 min, (Calls from Ireland are charged at IR£1.50). Calls on the helpline / creditcard ine are charged at the national call rate. Calls from Mobiles may be charged at a higher rate depending on your operator. Callers must be at least 16 years old & have the bill payers permission before calling. Items are sent by SMS & should take no longer than 15 mins to arrive. Mobatel ltd, Po Box 22783, London, N22 8ZH

Rollingtones.co.uk

...wicked new Logos and Tones for your NOKIA!



TO	NE OF THE WEEK	
20345	Merry Christmas everybody	Slade
UK	TOP 40 CHART HITS	
10612	Because I got high	Afroman
10496	Fallin'	Alicia Keys
10680	Rapture	iiO
10674	I'm real	Jennifer Lopez
10055	Hey Baby (Uhh, Ahh)	DJ Otzi
10681	Bohemian like you	The Dandy Warhols
10567	Can't get you out of my head	Kylie Minogue
10676	Emotion	Destiny's Child
10585	What would you do	City High
10662	Closer to me	Five
10643	One night stand	Mis-Teeq
10547	Family affair	Mary J. Bilge
10637	I'm a slave for you	Britney Spears
10663	Don't need the sun to shine	Gabrielle
10508	Smooth Criminal	Alien Ant Farm
10362	Follow me	Uncle Kracker
10616	You rock my world	Michael Jackson
10656	Boiler / Faith	Limp Bizkit
10682	That day	Natalia Imbruglia
10593	In the end	Linkin Park
10584	Chain reaction	Steps
10630	You got it bad	Usher
10684	Letter 2 my unborn	2 Pac
10628	Would you be happier	The Corrs
10683	Party hard	Andrew WK
10631	Flawless	The Ones
10587	Are you lookin' at me	Ricky Tomlinson
10685	Left behind	Slipknot
10686	Livin' it up	Ja Rule
10584	Chop Suey!	System Of A Down
10644	Sambucca	Wideboys
10534	Mambo No.5	Bob the Builder

Ringtone & Graphics

10487	Starlight			
10586	Thinking it over			
10668	The legacy			
10665	Rock the house			
10489	Fat lip			
10604	Sven Sven Sven			
10576	Luv me, Luv me			
INTERNATIONAL				
10645	The block party			
10554	Set you free			
10605	2 people			
10647	Izzo (H.O.V.A.)			
10529	Bad boy for life			
10551	Hunter			
10178	You're my mate			
10526	Where the party at			
10587	I want love			
10646	Loving you (Ole Ole			
10642	Puppy love			
10669	Island in the sun			
10648	Course bruv			
10641	Megamix			
10649	Drowning			
10197	Halfway around the			
10447	Eternal Flame			
10553	Baby come on over			
10474	Let's dance			
10633	The trees (Island)			
10580	Love, Peace & Vollg			
10634	(Drawing) Rings around			
10520	Milk and toast and			
10590	Jus 1 kiss			
10486	Take me home			
10418	Bootylicious			

10666 I'm so crazy

19000	tile legacy
10665	Rock the house
10489	Fat lip
10604	Sven Sven Sven
10576	Luv me, Luv me
	ERNATIONAL TO
10645	The block party
10554	Set you free
10605	2 people
10647	Izzo (H.O.V.A.)
10529	Bad boy for life
10551	Hunter
10178	You're my mate
10526	Where the party at
10587	I want love
10646	Loving you (Ole Ole Ole)
10642	Puppy love
10669	Island in the sun
10648	Course bruv
10641	Megamix
10649	Drowning
10197	Halfway around the world
10447	Eternal Flame
10553	Baby come on over
10474	Let's dance
10633	The trees (Island)
10580	Love, Peace & Vollgas
10634	(Drawing) Rings around the w

Gorillaz	100
Sum 41	203
Bell and Spurling Shaggy feat. S. Cole	203
Shaggy feat, S. Cole	203
HART HITS	203
Lisa Left Eye Lopez	203
N-Trance	203
Jean Jacques Smoothie	203
Jav Z	203
P.Diddy & The Bad Boy F.	203
Dido	203
Right Said Fred	203
Jagged Edge	2032
Elton John	2032
Brian Harvey & the R.C.	2032
Lil' Bow Wow feat, J.E.	2037
Weezer	2037
Genius Cru	203
Floorfilla	203
Backstreet Boys	203
A*Teens	203
Atomic Kitten	203
Samantha Mumba	203
Five	100
Pulp	100
DJ Otzi	202
Super Furry Animals	202
Roxette	203
Basement Jaxx	203
Sophie Ellis Bextor	203
Destiny's Child	203
Destiny's Child	203

	VIE / TV THEMES	**
0336	Pokémon	Theme
0356	Pokémon 2001	Flying without w
0042	South Park	Uncle Fucka
0058	The Simpsons	Theme
0300	Rugrats	Theme
0331	X-men	Theme
0338	E.T.	Theme
0332	Knight Rider	Theme
0335	LA. Law	Theme
0333	Magnum P.I.	Theme
0363	Big Brother	Theme
0337	The Wizard of Oz	Theme
1326	Terminator	Theme
1327	Gladiator	Honor him
1330	Independence Day	Theme
1325	The "X" Files	Theme
1323	The Professionals	Theme
328	Braveheart	For the love of a wo
1324	Beverly Hills 90201	Theme
1329	Casablanca	As time goes b
1322	Friends	Theme
0362	Jungle Book	I wanna be like y
0354	Aladdin	A whole new wo
0359	Peter Pan	Following the lea
0358	Hercules	Go the distance
0355	Godzilla	Theme
0062	Star Wars	Theme
0067	Beverly Hills Cop	Axel F
0295	Flintstones	Theme
0296	Bob the Builder	Theme
0303	Postman Pat	Theme
0309	Coronation Street	Theme
0309	Eastenders	Theme
0310 0312		Theme
1512	Brookside	Ineme

	r (wrestling)	
20376	Stone Cold Steve Austin	Hymn
20369	The Rock	Hymn
20371	Ken Shamrock	Hymn
20368	Kane	Hymn
20364	The Undertaker	Hymn
20365	Edge	Hymn
20367	Dude Love	Hymn.
20375	Val Venis	Hymn
CHR	ISTMAS	
20352	We wish you a merry Christmas	X-mas song
20344	Wonderful Christmastime	Paul McCartne
20342	Let it snow, let it snow	Dean Martin
26541	Jingle Bells	Frank Sinatra
20340	White Christmas	Bing Crosby
20347	Santa Claus is coming to town	Jackson 5
20351	Frosty the snowman	X-mas song
FOO	TBALL	
20306	Colonel Bogey	Football hymr
20307	Rule, Britannia!	Football hymr
20308	You'll never walk alone	Football hymi
ALL	TIME FAVOURITES	
20203	Angels	Robbie Willia
20321	USA - National Hymn	Popular melo
20319	Happy Birthday	Popular melo
20137	Another one bites the dust	Queen
10137	Let it be	The Beatles
20143	We are the champions	Queen
20125	Forever Young	Alphaville
20195	Englishman in New York	Sting
10078	Candle in the wind	Sir Elton John
20147	Final Countdown	Europe
20305	Yellow Submarine	The Beatles
20210	Piano Man	Billy Joel
10092	Yesterday	The Beatles

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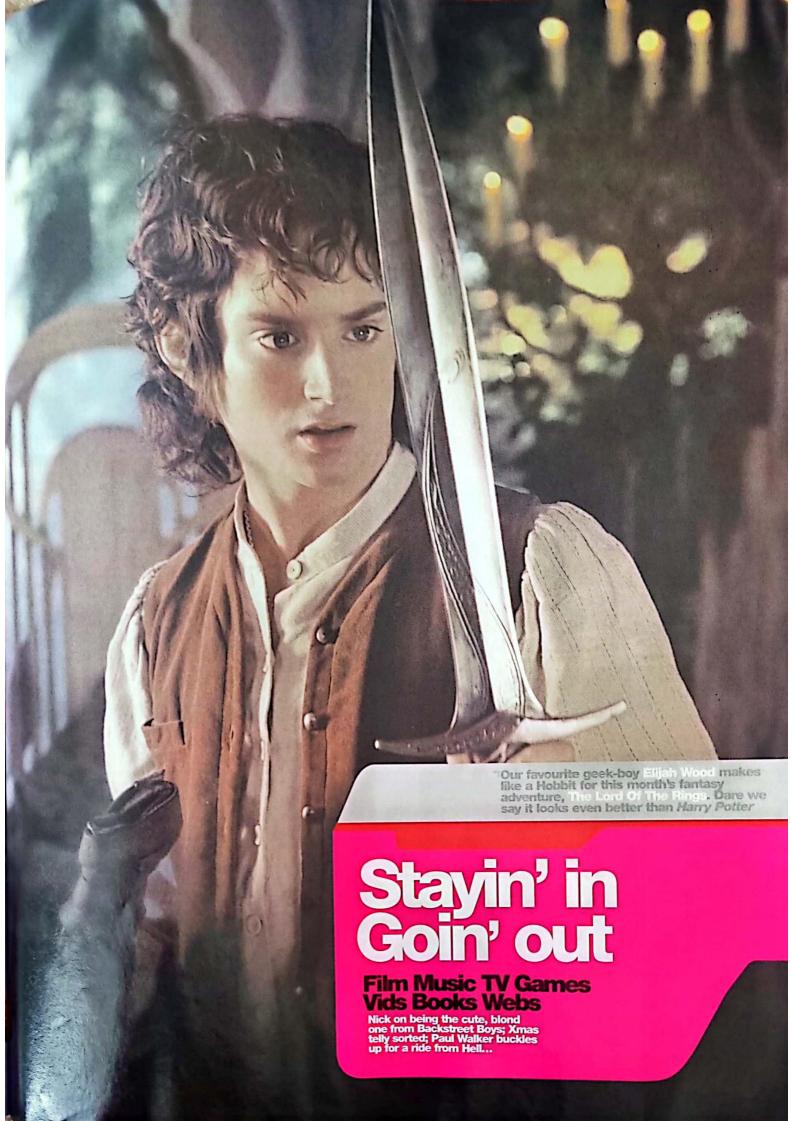
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5 x group graphics: Nokia 6110, 6130, 6150, 6210, 6250, 6310, 7110, 8210, 8250, 8310, 8810, 8850. Picture messages: Nokia 3210, 3310, 3330, 6210, 6250, 6310, 7110, 8210, 8250, 8310, 8850. 1 x ringtone: Nokia 3210, 6090, 6110, 6130, 6150, 8110i, 8810. 5 x ringtones: Nokia 3310, 3330, 6210, 6250, 6310, 7110, 8210, 8250, 8310, 8850, 9000i, 9110.

(1) Ringtones for all other manufacturers: Ringtones for mobiles with built-in ringtone composer only. See your phone's manual for instructions.



Have a State Bubblegum Christmas!

Send some fun festive sparkle to your mates this Christmas with Bubblegum's cool cards and let them know what you really think of 'em!

ecisions, decisions. With Christmas on its way, you'll have some tough choices to make: should you ask for the DVD player or the digital camera? Next, you'll have the job of deciding what pressies

and cards to get your mates. But with Bubblegum's wicked range of cards, moby cases, pocket books, stickers, cool cakes and more it'll be easy! With a character to suit each of your gang, all you have to do is match one up to each mate.

Who's who?

Are groovy chick pyjamas the perfect pressie for your mate, or does a flippin' mental card have her name on it? It's going to be a tough job making your mind up...



Groovy Chick

Catch-phrase: "I met Liam/Fran/Andrew WK at a gig on Saturday..."

Hobby: Hanging in coffee shops with guitar-strummin indie boys

Fave thing: Her baby-blue

Anthem: Last Night by The Strokes



Cool Dude

Catch-phrase: "Chill out, sista. Everything's, like, totally cool!"

Hobby: Shopping for vintage clothes at markets

Fave thing: Old-skool-style Adidas trainers

Anthem: An underground hardcore remix of the Beatles' All You Need Is Love



Flippin' Mental

Catch-phrase:

"Mad fer it!"

Hobby: Adrenaline-fuelled

X-treme sports

Fave thing:

A battered copy of Jack Kerouac's On The Road

Anthem:

Mike Flowers Pops version of Wonderwall

Check out www.bubblegumclub.co.uk for the latest gossip from all your favourite Bubblegum characters. You can join the Bubblegum fan club too for just £12.50 a year. You'll receive The Bubblegum newsletter and new members instantly get their hands on some wicked Bubblegum booty, including a stylish Bubblegum beanie. For more information, write to: Bubblegum Fan Club, 1st Floor, 254 The Green, Eccleston, nr Chorley, Lancs PR7 5TE.

Catch-phrase: "You just don't understand Geri Halliwell's musical genius!" Hobby: Dancing round her bedroom and singing into

Fave thing: Lip gloss and

Anthem: Don't Stop Moving

her hairbrush

cheesy pop

by S Club 7

Figure out your friendship

Not everyone is clued up enough to know that Bubblegum cards are the way forward when it comes to Crimbo and you might not be lucky enough to receive a Bubblegum character card of your own. So what do other cards say about your relationship with the people who send them?

A cartoon Santa

From: The geeky boy you sit next to in science.

He slipped this card in-between your biology textbook when you weren't looking cos he's too shy to speak to you.

An old-fashioned robin on a snow-topped branch

From: Your oldest acquaintance. You've known each other forever cos your mum is her mum's best friend but you wouldn't be seen out in public together.

A glittery Christmas tree

From: Miss Popular at school. She sends expensive gaudy cards to everyone in school (even the teachers) to guarantee she'll still be the most popular girl after the Christmas holidays.

A Nativity scene

From: Your nan.

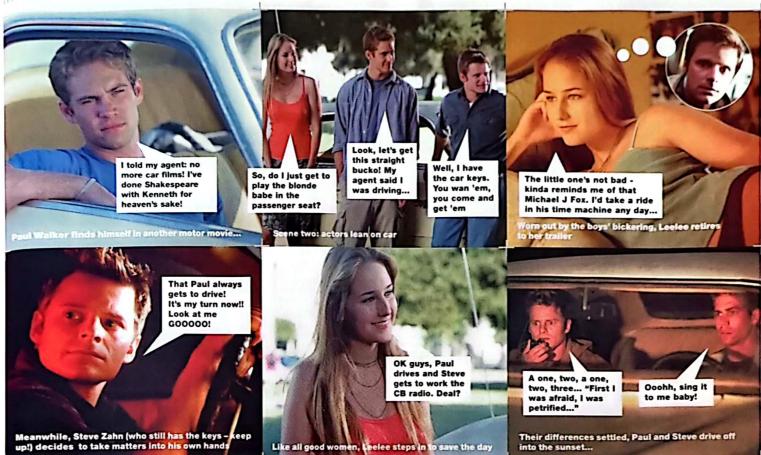
You get a religious card from her every year cos she's worried about your obsession with Marilyn Manson.



comic strip

joy ride (15)

guckle up for J17's take on this gonth's treakiest car-chase thriller



Starring Paul Walker, Steve Zahn, Leelee Sobieski

OK, so it may look like Paul Walker's hermetically sealed to his car seats, but believe us, this

is no Fast And Furious. Lewis (Walker) and his loose canon of a brother Fuller (Zahn) and friend Venna (Sobieski) are taking the long drive back from college when Fuller decides to use

their CB radio to play a practical joke on a lone trucker. But this lorry lad does NOT get the joke and the three find themselves being hunted down by a psycho trucker.

top xmas videos Too cold, too broke to head for the cinema? Thank Santa for videos to entertain you...

high heels and low lifes (15)

Minnie Driver, Mary McCormack Real-life best mates Minnie and Mary star as Shannon and Frances in this London-based crime caper. Lock, Stock it ain't, but it's good to see the girls calling the shots.

ish hour 2 (12)
clide Chan, Chris Tucker
not just your boyfrend who'll enjoy
tching this mismatched police duo
k ass, martial-art style, when they to
crack a counterfeiting ring in Hong
ng. Expect lors of fast-paced action,
n plenty of laughs along at to rent 31 Dec



josie and the pussycats (PG) Rachael Leigh Cook, Tara Reid, Rosario Dawson

Rachael Leigh Cook plays Josie, who gal pals, only to find that the Big Time is

Out to rent 17 Dec

late night shopping (15) Luke de Woolfson, James Lance, Kate Ashfield



it's a wonderful life (U) James Stewart, Donna Reed

If it's real Christmas spirit you're after, the oldies are still the best. It's Christmas Eve all (you'll have to watch to find out why!). Lucky for him his guardian angel shows up. But can he change James' mind? Out to rent and buy now



cats and dogs (PG)
Jeff Goldblum, Elizabeth Perkins
Animated adventure in which cats are an
evil army attempting to take over the world
and dogs are here to save us from them
(And we thought that they were just house
hold pets). Occasional hillarious scenarios
make up for the fact that it's a
kid flick. Out now



The next issue of SILE ISSUE OF SILE ISSUE

featuring all the goss and results from the

WOOLWORTHS SMASH HITS T4 POLL WINNERS PARTY AND TOUR!







ON SALE DEC 19 ALSO! ON SALE DEC 3



INCLUDING:
Kylie
Blue
DJ Otzi
Atomic Kitten
Dandy Warhols
The Ones
AND LOADS MORE

film & video



princess diaries (J)

ming Anne Hathaway, Julie Andrews, Heather Interest. Mandy Moore, Robert Schwartzman his plot is every little girl's dream: geeky kid who wesn't fit in at her posh private school discovers or long-absent dad was Prince of Genovia and she's cherted the throne. As you do. We're all suckers for lood oil fashioned geek-to-chic transformation, wit this one falls flat on its perfectly powdered little ace. And it ain't helped by the likes of Julie Andrews is the Queen (no, really), who plays the part like the's about to burst into a rendition of "The hills are alive with the sound of music". Painful stuff, saved only by the cute Robert Schwartzman.

rock star (15)

Starring Jennifer Aniston, Mark Wahlberg

Marky Mark and Jen just don't cut it in this rags-to-rock star rom-com. Chris Cole (Wahlberg) was born to rock and his girlfriend Emily (Aniston) believes his talent could take him all the way. He worships heavy metal legends Steel Dragon and can't believe his luck when the band ask him to become their new lead singer – he goes from rock fan to rock God overnight. More Spinal Tap than Almost Famous, Rock Star comes complete with some guitar-slamming, stage-thrashing 80s choons where Wahlberg really gets to showcase his vocal talent. But ultimately you'll come away more disappointed than delirious.



serendipity (гвс)

Starring Kate Beckinsale, John Cusack

At this time of year, those nice folk at your local multiplex always like to put on a cosy, winter-warmer of a movie. Enter Serendipity, a film about fate, destiny and finding the right pair of gloves. Jonathan Trager (Cusack) and Sara Thomas (Beckinsale) are doing last-minute Christmas shopping when their eyes meet over a crowded shop floor – and the chemistry's instant. Only trouble is, Sara believes in destiny. So they part that night without exchanging numbers and decide to let fate take it's course. But will they ever meet again? This even had some of us stone-hearted J17ers sniffling by the end.

lord of the rings

Behind the scenes on one of the year's biggest movies with Dominic Monaghan



The classic Tolkien tale of hobbits and elves is coming to a cinema near you in spectacular fantasy stylee. Dominic Monaghan, who plays Meriadoc Brandybuck, tells us what it was like to be involved in the next big thing to Harry Potter...

What was the best thing about making the film?

The fact that we all went through this incredible experi-

ence together. I made some great friends – Billy Boyd [who plays Pippin], Ian McKellen [Gandalf the Grey] and Orlando Bloom [Legolas Greenleaf]. I also became very good friends with Sean Bean [Boromir] – he's bonkers, you know!

So did you hang out with Liv Tyler at all?

Yeah, we became really good mates – I think cos her fiancè's from Leeds and I'm from Manchester. We hung out in the bars in Wellington, New Zealand. She's great.

Were your mates really jealous?

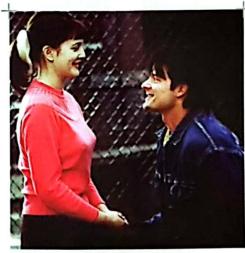
Yeah I think they were a bit, but a couple of them got to meet her cos they were out there at the same time.

Even though Liv has had an exceptional life and done things that most people her age haven't, at the end of the day she's still just a normal girl, you know.

Are you looking forward to being a megastar?

I don't really know what comes with it. It's never happened to me before and it's not something I've always gone crazy for. The reason I act is because I like acting; it's not because I ever wanted to be famous. But if it happens, then it happens and I'm sure I'll enjoy it.

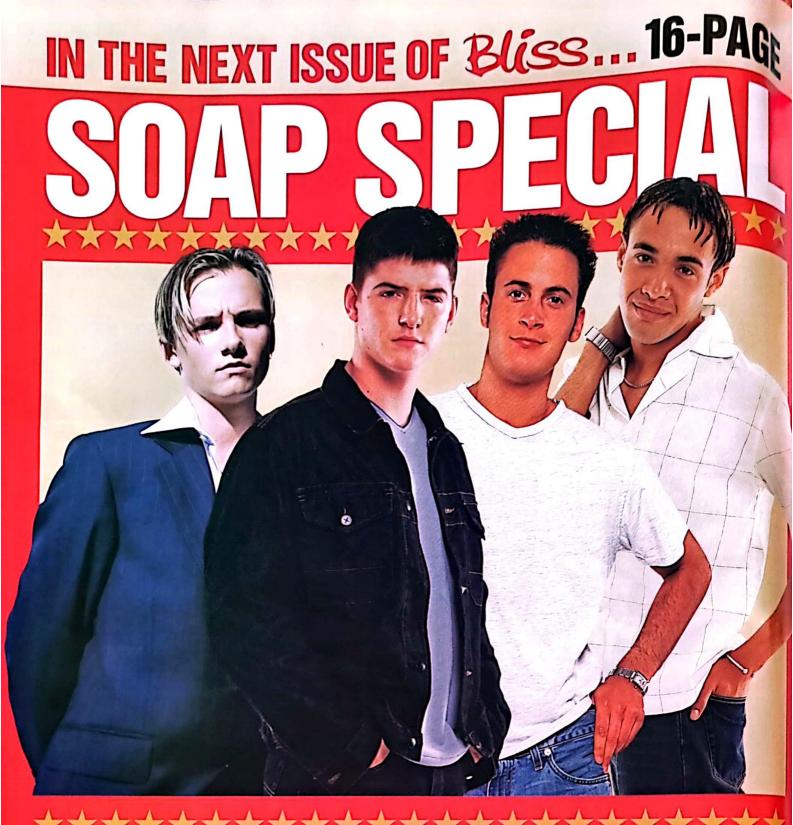
Lord Of The Rings is at cinemas nationwide from 19 December



riding in cars with boys (PG)

Starring Drew Barrymore, Adam Garcia, Brittany Murphy, Steve Zahn

Drew is brilliant in this true story about 15-year-old, grade-A student Beverly, pregnant by good-natured junkie Ray (Steve). But this is the 60s so Bev is forced to give up college dreams and set up home with an unwanted husband and child, and only her best friend (Brittany Murphy, soon to be seen as Kim in Eminem's flick) to keep her sane. This is really well acted, but can't help descending into too much schmaltz for our liking.



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PLUS! VOTE IN THE FIRST EVER Bliss SOAP AWARDS

Have a Telly Merry Christmas

mend some time chillin' with your folks (and a good vid of course) ind the goodwill might just pay off - in the form of extra pressies!

specember: Keep it in the family



You know you're gonna have to spend quality time with the relatives over Christmas, so you may as well make it

nioyable. Catch Toy Story 2 with the whole ood - Woody is kidnapped by a greedy tov ollector and Buzz Lightyear is challenged by vil Buzz - max laughs guaranteed.

pm and 7pm, Disney Channel (and 9pm, pristmas Dayl

18 December: Follow our cunning plan...



Share the sofa with the most ancient relative camping out in your house and settle down to watch Becoming Britney Spears

a fan gets to sample Ms Spears' life, though sadly she doesn't get to have a go at Justin). topefully, she'll be so impressed at your jevotion to such a wholesome role model that the'll bung you some extra pressies.

10pm, MTV

22 December: Earn some extra dosh



It's the Saturday before Christmas and you obviously have Big Plans, so sweeten your parents by spending

time with the gremlins (aka: younger siblings),

Telly Glue!

watching Steps - Live In Your Living Room. Your parents will be so thrilled that they'll bin your curfew. Or you can classify it as 'babysitting' and negotiate a fee! 7pm, Sky Box Office

Christmas Day: Big in Japan



It's the surreal world of Japanese gambling, so place your bets on how many helium-filled balloons

it takes to lift granny's favourite choir boy, Aled Jones, off the ground. Banzai Christmas Special also goes Stateside to baffle Hollywood stars - Angelina Jolie, Kelsey 'Frasier' Grammer and Steven Seagal for starters - with lots more bizarre antics. 10.30pm, E4

27 December: Girls' night in



No boys allowed for this mateonly viewing session dedicated to the girls we love to hate, presented by ex-Eternal diva

Louise Redknapp. Victoria Beckham interviews the rich and famous, Geri Halliwell spills her soul (yet again - is there anything we don't know?) and Madonna prances around on her world tour. Girl power rules!

From 4pm, E4

Festive soap slivers

Best 'could look good in tights' moment Robbie gets matey with Nita at

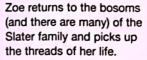
the panto and spends Christmas in a golden glow of excitement, topping off a great year for

Walford's least likely hunk.

■ Best bad fairy moment

Revenge is sweet on Brookside Close. Determined to prove her loyalty, Sammy shocks Katie with her devious plan to ruin Jacqui Dixon's life for good.

■ Best 'return to the crib' moment





■ Best 'tears under the tree' moment

Night And Day's Sam visits his parent's grave and we're transported a year back in time to the final moments before their fatal accident. Tissues at the ready.

■ Best 'surprise surprise' moment

Family Affairs' Paul is stunned to discover Kelly's carrying a baby for Matt and Karen. Jim tells him it's too late to be acting like a dad now. They'd be hard-pressed to be more blunt.

■ Corniest moment of the season

Kathy leaves Emmerdale and for some sad, strange reason ancient crooner Marty Pellow is wheeled on to sing her a farewell tune - oh yuck.

Best Santa impersonation

Corrie's Toyah persuades hunky Sam

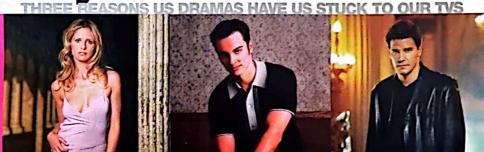
to be a stripping Father Christmas, while Steve and Vik curl up in shame over their own puny frames.

Blackest Christmas

Emmerdale's Mark spends his Christmas worrying about the trial for killing his headmistress.

Best 'holy virgin' moment

Will gets passionate with Dani in Home and Away, but things get difficult when he finds out she's still, ahem, untouched.



Buffy

Series six kicks off with a tantalising two-parter which sees the gang trying to bring Buffy back from the dead with a magic spell - expect lots of claustrophobia-inducing coffin shots! Meanwhile, a group of motorbike-riding demons discover the truth about Buffybot, who's been posing as the Slayer.

8pm, Fridays, Sky One.

Dawson's Creek

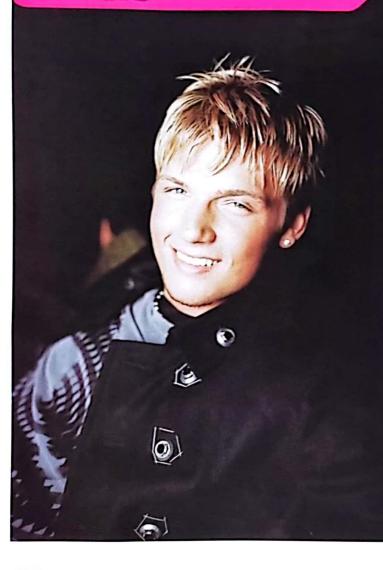
The Dawson's Creek crew are back, but now they've all relocated to big cities. Jen and Jack are causing waves on the Boston Bay College campus, while Pacey is secretly looking for a job in the area. Joey and Dawson, though, are having trouble settling down so far from each other's arms. Awwww.

time tbc, E4

Meanwhile, in the new series of Angel, the devilishly gorgeous one spends the summer at a Tibetan monastery mourning his beloved Buffster. His trip's interrupted when the monks turn out to be evil demons. Sheesh, even when you're on your hols a vampire never gets any rest!

9pm, Fridays, Sky One

music



Close Up

Nick Carter from Backstreet Boys

popsies competitions

Does your
Greatest Hits
album mean BSB
are splitting up?
We're definitely not
splitting up! We
haven't had time to
record a new album,
but we wanted to
give our fans
something back for
the support they've
given us. This album
represents the best
of the last five years,

If you could change one BSB moment, what would it be? I wouldn't change anything. We've had the best experiences of our lives. The only thing we'd want to do is make sure we appreciate our achievements. Sometimes it gets crazy and things

so it's a big deal.

don't sink in until after the time has passed.

How do you all keep grounded?
We keep each other in check. If one of us is getting carried away, the others will tell them to change their attitude.
We're a very strong unit and if we can't all agree on something, we don't do it.

As a BSB, is it

harder or easier
to get girls?
It's easier to talk
to girls because
they kind of know us
already, so we just
have to ask about
them. They're usually
quite open but can
be a bit shy and
nervous, which
makes it difficult.

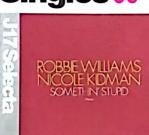
Tell us a secret about yourself... I don't want to put you off! Seriously, I'm not always the sweet angel that people think I am. I can be a bad boy sometimes!

What BSB lyric sums you up the best?

"As long as there'll be music, we'll be coming back again, from Everybody (Backstreet's Back). We're always asked why we're in a band and this is it! We love music and performing. And as long as we have the ability and the fans want us, we'll keep on going.

BSB's new single, Drowning, is out on 31 December.

Singles **!!**



Robbie Williams & Nicole Kidman

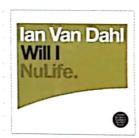
Somethin' Stupid

They might seem like an odd pair for a duet but this gorgeous twosome sound right at home covering this old Frank and Nancy Sinatra classic. The Christmas chart top spot beckons for this ballad. And rumours of Rob and Nic's postperformance activities make Somethin' Stupid even more irresistible.



Dr Dre feat. Knoc-turn'al Bad Intentions

If you haven't got Dre's wicked album *The Wash*, which accompanies the movie starring Dre and Snoop Dogg, then get *Bad Intentions* on your Christmas list! A no-fuss party track with a funky flute loop that'll have you getting down with your bad self on the dance floor. Respec!



lan Van Dahl Will J

Following their chart smashin', dance-floor-burnin' hit Castles In The Sky, Ian Van Dahl are back with another top party tune. Despite the band's stupid name – they're actually three Belgian dance divas, fronted by 23-year-old singer Annemie Coenen – one listen to Will I and you'll be hooked!



Ash There's A Star

Poppy punksters Ash must be going for a 'most singles from one album' award cos this is the fifth from their long-player Free All Angels. Not that we mind. Tim, Mark, Rick and Charlotte haven't disappointed us all year and this festive number is the perfect track to end 2001 on. We're feeling that string arrangement!



Dido All You Want

Not only did Dido pick up a Best New Act gong at last month's MTV Awards but she's shifted a breathtaking 11 million copies of her album, No Angel – and she probably knows Eminem's mobile number. Jealous, us? The gorgeous All You Want is a must-own track for girls obsessing over crushes or ex-boyfriends this Xmas.



Andrew WK

"Life is a miracle to celebrate." reckons 23-year-old Andrew WK, who's tipped to be one of 2002's biggest stars. This philosophy could explain why rock's newest and strangest leader likes to party. Hard. His debut single, Party Hard (from album I Get Wet), was a moshaddicted rock girl's dream - a post-industrial metal riff-fest which won Michigan-born Andrew instant admirers. Before WK (White Killer, Wild Kid or his surname Wilkes-Krier) got his big break from the Foo Fighters' Dave Grohl, he gigged in Starbucks but we won't hold that against him. Any friend of Dave's is a friend of ours and under all that hair and blood, he's pretty cute!



Albums::



Various Artists Funky Divas

What's the story?

A two-CD compilation featuring the best tracks from the best female artists around. No girls' night in will be complete without it!

Is it any cop?

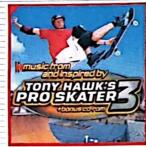
Don your kitten heels, grab a hairbrush and warble along with Eve, Pink, Mis-Teeq, Sam Mumba and more...

High point

A hot selection of tracks to suit a girl's every mood.

Low point

Natalie Imbruglia's *That Day*. Yeah, Nat, you're small and fragile.



Various Artists

Music from and inspired by Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 3

What's the story?

A collection of punk and hip hop highlights for skate kids everywhere chosen by the skateboarding and video game legend, Tony Hawk.

Is it any cop?

Featuring tracks from Alien Ant Farm, Pennywise, Papa Roach and Outkast, this is one for hard-core moshers.

High point

Get your teeth into Deftones' Head Up. It's a big 'un!

Low point

Grazed knees when you pretend you can skateboard.



The Princess Diaries

What's the story?

Music from new Hollywood chick-flick, *The Princess Diaries*, which hits cinemas at the end of December.

Is it any cop?

As cheesy as the film, this is pop from the likes of Steps, Mandy Moore (who's in the movie) and B'Witched.

High point

Hanson's Wake Up. We just can't help liking those brothers!

Low point

Aaron Carter's Little Bitty Pretty One. Pack it in, Carter.





Hear'Say Everybody

What's the story?

It seems like only yesterday this lot were bombarding us with a cappella renditions of *Monday, Monday*. Now they're on their second album.

Is it any cop?

How disappointing. No feel-good pop tracks and so unimaginative, boring and predictable it hurts. High point

Everybody. A scarily infectious pop-fest.

Low point

Even Celine Dion would turn down the gruesome Home Again.

books & webs

Books ::

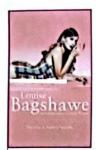




celia

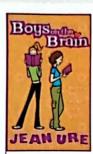
by Catherine Robinson

We all have a bit of Celia in us: she's troubled, confused and life is getting to her big time. See, Celia's adopted and, unable to cope with her nagging 'family', she storms out on everyone – including her boyfriend Josh – and decides to go in search of her real mum, who gave her up all those years ago. Her journey is compulsive reading, and whatever your circumstance, you'll identify with her.



when she was bad

by Louise Bagshawe
This is one of those oldfashioned, compulsively
readable sex 'n' revenge
stories about two girls (one
rich, one poor, both beautiful)
who both get involved with
the same crummy guy and
spend the rest of the book
swearing revenge on him and
each other, while becoming
enormously successful.
Ultimately a bit disappointing,
but it's still a fun read.



boys on the brain

by Jean Ure

Best friends Cresta and Charlie both have mortifying parents: Cresta's mum is a boy-mad raver desperate to hang on to her teen spirit; Charlie's mum is equally boy obsessed, and anxious that her daughter shed the pounds to pull a fit one. Boys On The Brain is the teen lit equivalent of Absolutely Fabulous and, while it won't go changing the world, it'll give you a few laughs.



Webs: trawling the net for boy stuff

Have a laff

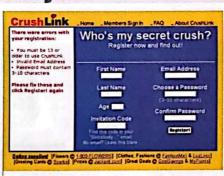
静 學 夢 寒

www.hotornot.com

Let's face it, we all like to look at cute boys. And we also like to snigger at the not-so-cute ones. Where better to find an endless supply of both than on the net? We've found www.hotornot.com, where guys send in pics of themselves and you get to rate them from one to ten. They also have a message board, so if a particular fella takes your fancy you can let him know just how appreciative you are. We've spent so much time on it at the J17 office, it's amazing that we get any work done!



HOT or NOT? As seen or Progen, Time, Newword, NY Times, and USA Today. HOT or NOT what dishings behavior the seed of the see



Let him know

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Looking at pictures is all well and good, but what if you already have your eye on a special boy? If you have a crush on a gorgeous guy but are too scared to tell him, log on to www.chrushlink.com. This site plays cupid for you. It asks you to list the e-mail addresses of your five best boys, then sends them anonymous e-mails from the site letting them know that somebody has a crush on them. They have to guess who it is and if they're right you have a crushlink! It's like Streetmate on the web.

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Pac - Changes: 5156 Pac - Until The End Of Time: 4723 froman - Because I Got High: 5403 licia Keys - Fallin': 5730 lien Ant Farm - Smooth Crim: 5261 tomic Kitten - Eternal Flame: 4999 arthezz - On The Move: 5253 link 182 - First Date: 5344 link 182 - The Rock Show: 4899

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arude - Feel The Beat: 3660 lestiny's Child - Bootylicious: 5000 lestiny's Child - Independent W: 3569 Destiny's Child - Jumpin Jumpin: 3924

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we - Closer To Me: 5478

ve - Let Me Blow Ya Mind: 5107 Ne - Let's Dance: 5106

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NOKIA PIX





Austin Powers: 1026 Bare Necessities: 46 Bare Necessities: 4606 Batman: 4607 Best Friend Wed: 1051 Beverly Hills 90210: 1431 Beverly Hills Cop: 1432 Big Brother: 4613 Bob The Builder: 3636 Bodyguard: 4450 Brookside: 4617 Buffy Vampire Slay: 1028 Casualty: 3984 Charlies Angels: 1030 Close Encounters: 3845 Coronation Street 3534 Dallas: 4624 Danger Mouse: 4625 son's Creek: 1033 Deep Space 9: 3863 Eastenders: 3632 Emerdale: 3537

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In next month's J-17

Don't waste valuable snog time kissing loads of frogs this year



If you've got a spooky problem, write in to J17's very own psychic agony aunt. From dream interpretation to rune reading, she will look to the future and reveal your true destiny

Have you got a query? Write to Psychic Sam at J17, 189 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8JG. Or e-mail us at sarah. williams@emap.com. Don't forget to include the date and approximate time you were born. Sorry, but Sam can't answer questions on the phone or personally.

Is your number up?

Want to know your future? Draw a 12in circle on a piece of paper, focus on a situation, take three dice and roll 'em. Count up the number of spots that appear inside the circle, then check our chart to see what's in store...

- 1 Whatever you think will happen, will.
- 2 Whatever you think will happen, won't.
- **3** Great surprises are in store and you may receive unexpected news.
- **4** Something disappointing perhaps even unpleasant will happen.
- **5** Someone new is coming into your life and they'll make you very happy.
- **6** Take care or you'll lose something you value.
- **7** People will spill your secrets and may even betray you.

8 If you proceed as planned, you'll be blamed when things go wrong.

- **9** A relationship is going to turn out fine, even if you've recently argued.
- 10 Change is in store and it's going to be good.
- **11** A rift or parting is on the cards, but you'll only be sad for a while.
- 12 Take advice before acting on good news.
- 13 Don't pursue this matter it may be easily sorted but it will bring sadness.
 - **14** A loving friendship will grow from this.
 - 15 Stick to your principles and don't take risks.
 - **16** An unexpected journey is on the cards and it may just change your life.
 - **17** Be flexible with your plans and the cash will roll in.
 - **18** A wish is going to be granted and success is guaranteed.

Marriage dilemma

As part of our culture, my parents will arrange my marriage for me while I'm still quite young. I'd like to know if you can tell me when I am likely to get married and whether he will be 'the one'.

From truly confused

It must be very difficult for you to grow up in two cultures at the same time and you're being pulled in different directions at once. Western culture tends to place the individual's needs above those of the group, while Eastern culture is much more group oriented. You will get married and have a happy married life. I won't tell you whether or not it will be arranged, but no-one can make

you do anything against your will and your parents wouldn't intentionally do anything to make you unhappy.

Flying high

I keep having dreams about aeroplanes. Sometimes I'm flying in them and once, one crashed. I'm not scared of flying though, but does this mean that I'm destined to travel a lot?

Buffy fan, born 15/11/85 around 11 pm

I guess with the events that happened on September 11, we are all a little concerned about flying. Your dreams do show a willingness to trust in others and to take risks, but they also demonstrate that you must listen to your inner voice that warns against being too trusting. Someone with your can-do attitude is sure to travel, so I definitely think this is starred for you in the future.

Star gazing Nick from Backstreet Boys, 28/1/80



Nick has grown up in the group and although he clearly loves his buddies, he'll want to branch out on his own

at some point. If he does pursue a solo singing career, it'll be a successful one – and, like so many singers do, he's admitted that he wants to do more acting. He's already worked alongside Johnny Depp in Edward Scissorhands and I can see him taking a role in an action movie. Eventually, he'll produce and direct his own films – perhaps one about his life in the group. He doesn't have a girlfriend right now, but will settle down with a loyal, independent, honest girl who can provide him with stability – family life is very important to him.

Eternal flame

I am sure that I was an ancient Egyptian queen in a past life and I believe my purpose in this life is to find my long-lost love who was king of Egypt thousands of years ago. I am hoping you can tell me where he is, or who he is, so we can be reunited.

Kirsty, born 22/08/85

That's very romantic and I hope it gives you comfort to think that somewhere out there is one man who is your soul mate. I do believe in reincarnation but have to admit I'm not sure I agree that there is just one person meant for each of us -I would hate for you to spend your life alone, looking for that special someone when there could be so many other people you'd be happy with. Only you can know if your past life was really true, but I sense that you shouldn't spend this lifetime trying to recreate the past.

DAY-BY-DAY STARS: 14 DECEMBER 2001-10 JANUARY 2002

▼SNOG DAY → LUCKY DAY £ DOSH DAY * HASSLE DAY

ARIES 21 MARCH – 20 APRIL



FF	RIDAY
	14th The Sagittarius New Moon brings
	ne financial assistance

21st You need to grit

your teeth and get on

unning smoothly, with enus and Pluto messing things up. 22nd With Mercury

and Saturn both

SATURDAY

SUNDAY 16th Mercury moves into Capricorn, so getting things done will be extra tricky today.

23rd Don't take this

you, so listen.

MONDAY 17th Don't take on too much, you are not as tough as you like to think you are. 24th When will you

earn to compromise?

Fighting never gets you

18th Behind the scenes, a lot of good things are happening. You just need to believe.

1st Your resolution for

TUESDAY

are high, but somehow you never get to contribute fully. 25th With the Moon in your sign, this is quite a moody, changeable

26th The Moon moves into Taurus. Believe it or not, you'll enjoy just being with your family

WEDNESDAY

19th Your energy levels

ahead with confidence 27th Fight off yo physical tiredne because Venus has romantic plans for you

THURSDAY

20th With Mercury

active again in your chart, you can push

is easier than you think 28th You may be feeling imtable, but don't take it out on other people.

29th The Sun and Neptune combine to keep you grounded. No point aiming too high.

never far away.

* 30th The Full Moon in Cancer puts dampers on your plans today.

criticism the wrong way It is intended to help

31st Pluto has a big influence on you today so don't expect things to go simply.

2002 should be to keep your temper and count to ten before reacting.

person today.

brain don't seem to belong to the same

2nd Your body and

3rd You have got big plans, but do you have the support you need make them happen?

4th Mercury moves into Aquarius, so don't take everything you hear at

know what you want, how will anyone else be able to work it out?

6th Things seem uncertain, because you're still unclear about what you want

7th Venus and Jupiter come together and you life takes on a more interesting aspect.

9th Others put you in a tricky position, 8th When others are shouldn't feel guilty but is it deliberate or an about saying no.

10th You can always find someone to run your life for you, but is that what you want?

TAURUS 21 APRIL - 21 MAY



FRIDAY 14th The Sagittarius New Moon makes you

21st You're not

best of times - today you really lose it!

28th Your new

15th You aren't getting the whole truth today,

SUNDAY 16th You've already made your mind up, so now you're just bending the facts to fit your theon

Capricorn - a great day for buying pressies.

30th The Cancer Full Moon will tend

MONDAY 17th Money that you earned ages ago finally shows up Enjoy spending it.

31st Mars gives you

energy boost, you are to tace any challenges

confidence soaring, you know for certain that

1st Make 2002 the year

TUESDAY

18th A minor turning point. Venus helps you to deal with others and

WEDNESDAY

19th Teamwork will lighten the load today, so don't be so stubbor

26th The Moon

3rd Although you remain positive, you know nothing is achieved without struggle.

THURSDAY

20th Some people

think you are naive – today's the day to prove

planet, moves into Capricorn, making you

4th Mercury and a day for the Bull who nows what she wants

Neptune combine to keep things optimistic and upbeat. 5th For all their chann dealing with simply can be trusted.

6th You're actually in a

even if it seems a long way in the future.

8th Things are going smoothly at work and your love life

10th Just say sorry. There isn't anything you

GEMINI 22 MAY - 21 JUNE



FRIDAY

14th The New Moon in Sagittarius brings a dark-haired guy

22nd A stressful, tense day when in the end, all you can say is "I did 21st Some good luck is

SATURDAY

15th An air sign friend will need help. You need to keep their feet on the

smile on your face

SUNDAY

16th Mercury brings an intriguing invitation that you would be crazy

23rd Make the most of today's opportunities. There's a silver lining in

6th The weather is dreadful, which matche your mood. Happily,

MONDAY

17th Bide your time and others will come

24th Not everyone sees things as clearly as you do, but don't let that

31st Make sure the arrangements for this evening are understood

and that's far from ideal

TUESDAY

has been quiet, so today's events seem

25th The Moon is in Aries, so expect a more exciting

1st in 2002 you need to be more determined and decide what it is

8th There is far too much talk and not enough action for your taste today. WEDNESDAY

the subject of cruel gossip, and you need to

20th This isn't your fault, so step back and take a long, hard look at 27th Time to plan your New Year resolutions, just make them realistic 26th The Moon moves into Taurus, so you are unusually stubborn and a tiny bit lazy today.

THURSDAY

2nd You won't let your standards slip, but does that make you too judgemental?

3rd Try to understand another person's motives, they won't help unless you do.

10th Be ready to help a dark-haired girl. At a later date she is sure to outcome to a prolonged negotiation as others agree to your plan return the favour.

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CANCER 22 JUNE - 23 JULY



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HIDAI			MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
14th The Sagittarius New Moon helps you make a new start in a creative area of your life.	15th Venus and Pluto get together and the result is some pretty serious flirting.	16th You'll get some useful advice as Mercury moves into Capricorn. Follow it!	17th Having good ideas is easy, but making real change is much more difficult.	18th For ages it's been like wading through syrup, but today things finally turn around.	19th Don't let other people bring you down. If they take things out on you, rise above it.	20th If people around you are not as clear sighted as you are, you must help them out.
trying to be fair and logical – the stars don't want things that way.	and Saturn come together to give you all the luck you'll need.	23rd You are more practical than normal. It's an ideal time to finish the Christmas shopping.	to avoid aggravation this isn't the disaster it	25th The Moon is in Aries so you'll be able to help out your parents a lot today.	26th As the Moon, your ruling planet, moves in Taurus you're feeling grounded and together.	27th Venus brings an earth sign guy to you. He's dark-haired and a bit older than you.
28th You have the energy to finally handle the jobs you've been putting off.	Neptune isn't a good pairing, so today never really gets going.	Full Moon blues, since it	31st it's easy to get angry, but try to take your time and think of a way to change things.	1st Try to keep calm in 2002. Too often you've raged against things you can't do anything about.	2nd You must curb a certain person's excesses, or there will be trouble.	3rd You've tried to point out the dangers ahead, but if no-one will listen, what are you to do?
4th It is lucky that no- one is relying on you today because you'd probably let them down.	5th Blessed is the peacemaker, but be wary if you are in the middle of the road.	6th Your ability to see the best in other people is to your credit, but it might be misplaced.	7th Venus brings romance, and Jupiter ensures you are in the driving seat.	8th A last-minute postponement is disappointing, but don't worry about it today.	9th Money worries end as a person with glasses offers something too good to miss.	10th Your doubts about someone's honesty should stop you getting too close to danger.
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LEO 2	LEO 24 JULY – 23 AUGUST						
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	
you so desperately need is yours, thanks to the New Moon	15th A mild surprise, as Venus and Pluto bring developments in your frome life	16th Mercury promises a lot, yet somehow falls to deliver. Don't panic, you'll have better days.	17th Your determination to see the best in people, while attractive, makes you very vulnerable.	18th You should move to the next level, but your lack of confidence is holding you back.	1916 As fantastic as things sound, you can't help feeling that it's all too good to be true.	20th Don't assume other people have your best interests at heart even if they say they do	
21st Venus hostility could mean a broken heart, unless you take control.	22nd Your shopping frip is very successful, it a little more expensive than you'd planned	23rd A tremendous day socially and also one of the best party nights of the year.	24th Try to put up with what you find slightly annoying. It's nat worth creating a fuss.	25th You'll win lots of Brownle points if you pitch in and do your share today.	26th A perfect time for kicking back, relaxing and letting yoursalf be pampered.	27th You must seize the moment This can only lead to good things, so go for it.	
28th It's difficult to plan ahead when everyone seems to be changing their minds so frequently.	29th There's a whole lotta love in the air, as Neptune takes a hand in your life.	Moon is simply too close for comfort. Time to keep a low profile.	31st Mars and Pluto come together to put things on a plate for you.	1st Try to keep real this year. You don't always have to be the centre of attention.	2nd Don't go for short outs and, above all, check that information you get is accurate.	3rd Money from an cunusual source rounds off the month quite nicely.	
4th Mercury in Aquanus suggests that you il find communication difficult today.	5th You're in danger of being a little too trusting. Don't take things at face value.	2 6th An Infusion of funds makes a welcome start to the month.	7th Venus and Jupiter bring a little love action your way at some point today.	8th Blow your stack if you choose to but there isn't an easy solution, whatever you think	Sth Lock the doors and hide under the covers as everything goes haywire.	10th More of the same madness! But this time the family want to join in as well.	
					أنخاضونيون		

VIRGO 24 AUGUST – 23 SEPTEMBER						
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
14th The New Moon will bring an interesting older man into your life.	15th More of the same really, as Venus and Pluto keep things hot after dark!	16th No matter how well-intentioned they are, people should just learn to give it a rest.	# 17th A social event you've been looking forward to will be postponed.	18th Stop worrying about going your own way. Just do what you have to do.	19th Tell them to give it a rest. You've had enough of listening to so much nonsense.	20th Despite small frustrations, there is a fundamental and positive change coming.
21st Money won't be a problem for at least a couple of weeks after today.	22nd Don't listen to silly gossip, the meeting of Mercury and Saturn isn't one that helps you.	23rd The Sun in Capricorn makes you take on some practical characteristics.	24th A job well done, even a little job, is a source of immense satisfaction to you.	25th One of the better Christmases, as the Moon moves into Aries, which suits you no end.	26th Taurus, the sign that denotes the home, is responsible for most of today's activity.	27th All goes haywire. Unfortunately, you just haven't got the skills to meet this challenge.
28th You know some real idiots so do not, in any circumstances, follow their advice.	29th The Sun and Neptune come together to put things back on an even keel.	30th The Full Moon in nearby Cancer puts a real damper on your day.	31st Make the most of the extra energy that Mars gives you, you'll certainly need it.	1st In the New Year you need to get to grips with all the doubts that have held you back in 2001.	2nd Unless you tell people what you want, how will anyone know how to help?	3rd You need to take a break, and now that Mercury is helping, you'll get the chance.
4th Mercury gets it on with Aquarius, meaning this is a lucky time for romance.	5th The stars bring a day in which things work out better than you could have hoped.	6th Others aren't doing their fair share, but the time isn't right to speak out just yet.	7th You have to take the initiative – Venus and Jupiter will help, but it's mostly down to you.	8th Today, new ideas or opportunities abroad are delivered directly to your doorstep.	9th Some decisions are too big to be taken lightly. If you're unsure, try to put them off.	# 10th Things are going your way, but be prepared to make some effort yourself.
Barrier .						

LIBRA 24 SEPTEMBER – 23 OCTOBER THURSDAY WEDNESDAY **FRIDAY** SUNDAY SATURDAY MONDAY TUESDAY 20th It'll be tough 19th Your social life is hotting up, but try to keep it in balance with 14th You're quids in, now that the Sagittarius New Moon 15th Pluto keeps it 17th Pride can make it 18th Listen to you as long as you can show some guts to news from afar is brought by Mercury as it moves into Capricorn. interesting. Don't panic hard to get in touch with eart and you will get all the inspiration you could possibly need. your feelings, but that is what you must do. and things will start to hot up nicely. you'll come out on too work and home life. brings money your way the social front. Today Venus adds to 21st You have been 22nd You have a lot to be proud of. You've 24th You should know 26th A day to spend 23rd The Sun 25th You are so promising to make a new start for some time. Well, today is the day. with your family, as the Taurean Moon puts the better than to judge determined to enjoy Capricorn putting a rosy glow on your love life. worked hard and someone just by their yourself that nothing is little bit of extra sp emphasis on home. received your reward appearance. going to stop you 3rd Venus isn't do 31st A super social day, as you make the most of the 29th You really want to rise to the challenge, 30th The Full 1st Libra resolutions fo 2nd Don't play around 28th You need some Moon means that you any favours, b with your schoolwork. Any silliness will come resh air and perhaps a 2002 must involve harder you work, the new hobby. Life has been too tough recently getting yourself healthy and in shape this year. but are afraid to risk it is very risky to make more you will ach ck to haunt you. 9th Keep calm, cool and collected. The signs 10th Speak softly 5th If you are presently boy-less this could be a very important day for you. 6th A blonde girl and a fair-haired man are 7th What are you trying to achieve: good grades 8th Happiness comes from being 4th Mercury is in friends don't shar Aquarius - good news if aren't good, but they feelings and you ca you're trying to manage home and work. talking about you. It's not clear if this is good or a great social life? surrounded by people who care about you. force them to eithe Why not a mix of both? aren't certain either.





CAPRICORN

23 DECEMBER - 20 JANUARY



FRIDAY

14th The New Moon is close and

listen to what your ends have been trying

gour which gives you basses of energy.

bout needs help, so on't just stand there ching, lend a hand

15th Don't stand for

22nd Mercury and Saturn send a timely addition to your bank balance.

29th Others are sniping at you, but if you're having fun why worry? They'll soon stop.

5th There's a rapid reverse of fortune, as the stars have you on

16th The cards start arriving, as Mercury puts the emphasis on communication.

23rd You stand under the spotti under the spotlight as the Sun moves into

** 30th Everyone seems determined to fight, as the Full

6th You're frustrating everyone with your continual mood swings MONDAY

17th Things seem a little tense. Better times

concentrate on work for two weeks, despite all obvious distractions.

** 7th You are torn between what you want to do and what you know you should do

TUESDAY

18th A difficult month is coming to an end. Much of what you believed has now changed.

a quiet time, but with Aries so prominent it's a

1st You are usually impossible challen

WEDNESDAY

19th An excellent party day, when you are at the centre of everything that is going on.

and you don't have your usual spirit. 26th The Moon moves into Taurus, and this slower domestic feel is

2nd You're coasting along and are certainly move forward.

9th Make some time for yourself as the Gemini Moon keeps things

into your sign, it's still the party season. You are busy, but happy.

THURSDAY

20th Not a good day. Your confidence is shot

initiative this time.

minor hiccups, the future is bright.

QUARIUS 21 JANUARY – 19 FEBRUARY



FRIDAY

14th The New Moon falls in the rea of your chart that promises romance.

an handle it with easi

28th If only every day could be as exciting. Thrilling is the only word for it.

4th Concentrate on across because you can get what you want SATURDAY

15th It's nice to be sometimes that can be

22nd Good things are

look great from the outside, but it isn't whe it happens to you.

well as your problems

SUNDAY

16th Mercury is moving your way, which means that it will be easier to ask for what you want.

ou are so full of life

or study, things don't turn out the way you MONDAY

17th If you thought yesterday was bad, today is even more of a slap in the face.

keep your head down

is the best you'll get.

TUESDAY

18th Push ahead

25th The best day of the year - a Christmas that brings all

WEDNESDAY

19th You are right to worry, but you'd be better advised to thin about how to fix it

THURSDAY

20th Be diplomatic as the Stars and other potentially explosive

3rd Don't be put off

PISCES 20 FEBRUARY - 20 MARCH



FRIDAY

2 14th Sagittarius gives you all the cash you'll need to meet 21st It's been a struggle to keep

things in order. But you are on the right track.

according to plan, but all things considered, it

SATURDAY

15th A day that has unfulfilled promise. You where you were going.

22nd Hit the shops, do it long and do it hard. How can you have left

for today is the elegant solution - don't just win

30th Oh dear, the

Strange really.

SUNDAY

16th It's amusing, but

only in a cruel sort of way, and sometimes

23rd Some people have a different idea of what fun means.

MONDAY

17th Something but are you ready to commit to just one guy?

24th Do unto others as you would have them

speak up if people say

25th You spent what you had, but you still come out a big

TUESDAY

18th Mercury's

1st Promise yourself

2nd It gets frustrating

WEDNESDAY

19th The stars will see to it that you

et more than your fair

little pampering, and the Taurean Moon ensures

been arranged behind your back, but

THURSDAY

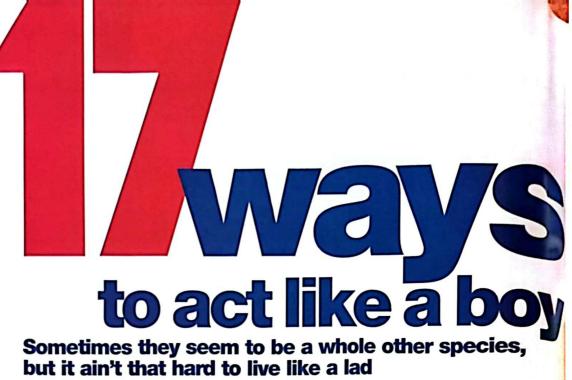
20th You are a driven

4th As Mercury moves eceive some excellent

5th You're taking or got plenty of your own

7th When your heart says yes but

a gift horse in the mouth but, even so, life seems too good to be true



Dribble a ball up the garden path and, in a commentator voice, say things like, "Beckham's past one defender, he's past two... he SCAAAAAAWES!"

When you bump into a mate in town, slap them on the back

or mock punch them on the arm. Shake their hand in an elaborate Ali G-stylee and call them "man".

Insist on taking apart electrical items, claiming: "I know what I'm doing". Toasters, stereos, computers... nothing is safe. Be sure to leave it in a hundred pieces.

Never, ever communicate with your family. They are unfashionable, embarrassing fools. When they shame you by asking questions, grunt.

Make takeaways a staple part of your diet. Remember that scoffing the hottest thing on the menu proves your masculinity.

Vindaloos, chilli sauce and mustard are the manliest.

Avoid being nice to your friends at all costs. If they get their hair cut or buy a new pair of jeans tell them they look like a "dick" or a "ponce", then laugh at them all day.

Develop an obsession with boobs and, when talking to a female, always address her chest. Pretend you disapprove of breast implants but demand a Jordan calendar for Christmas.

Become a fan of the most obscure music possible and diss all the girls in your class by calling their fave band "commercial crap". Go for happy hardcore or intelligent drum 'n' bass.

Leap for joy when a new computer game comes out. Devote time to learning the cheat then sulk if your mates beat you

10 Find cars, motorbikes and any fast moving forms of transport strangely arousing.

When one of your girl mate is in a mood accuse her of being "on the blob".

Take enormous pleasure in farting, belching and flicking greenies. Don't blame anyone else – be loud and be proud.

Sit on the bus/train/tube with your legs wide apart, intruding on your neighbour's space. Tap your feet irritatingly and make sure your Walkman can be heard by everyone.

Hog the bathroom for at least an hour, making sure you leave every towel completely soaked. Emerge looking – freakishly enough – no cleaner.

15 Keep a stack of 'specialist magazines' under your bed and go bright red and mumble when anyone ventures near them.

16 Only shed actual tears of emotion when your footy team loses, or someone kicks you between the legs!

Nick your sister's copy of J17 and read it when noone's looking, paying particular attention to the problem page.



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